



27" In Feeding Hills...



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Advertiser News

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

Volume XXIV Number 6

February 8, 2001

Danielle DeForge Named Agawam's First Colleen



THE MEMORIES OF LAST SUNDAY, February 4th at Chez Josef, will last a lifetime for Agawam's first Colleen, Danielle DeForge. From left: Danielle with escort Shane Battles. In center photo: Danielle walks in front of the head table as the festivities begin. In right photo: Colleen Danielle DeForge with her Court (from left): Meagan Langevin, Lori O'Dea, Ashley Guiel, and Emily Morton. (Related story and photos on Pages 8 & 9.) Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

"A Super Pig Roast"



ON SUPER BOWL SUNDAY, the Polish American Club in Feeding Hills held a pig roast to celebrate the big event. While the Ravens fans were ravin', and the Giants fans were cryin', everyone agreed that the pig roast was outstandin'. Cooking the day's meal are (from left) Lucy Smith, club president Ron Labun, and Slim Stepanik.

Mother Nature Packs A Punch In Feeding Hills

by Hope E. Murray
Municipal Writer

New England winters are back, and in full force. While most people were hoping spring was just around the corner, Mother Nature decided to remind everyone why New England has a reputation for bad weather.

Agawam and the rest of the Pioneer Valley were blanketed in snow early this week. Beginning around noon on Monday and continuing through midnight, two to three inches per hour fell on Western Massachusetts. Approximately 27 inches of snow covered Agawam when the storm was over.

Despite the blizzard conditions, there were few incidents on Agawam's streets.

According to a spokesperson for the Agawam Police Department, it was pretty much a quiet day Tuesday as the Department of Public Works (DPW) cleared the roadways. Very few people were out driving since most people spent a good portion of the day trying to dig-out their vehicles, driveways and sidewalks.

Mayor Richard A. Cohen commended the DPW's efforts.

"I think they did a great job," Cohen said. "They

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were up all night and they got the streets done without any accidents or incidents. And it's a tough job," he added.

DPW crews were out Monday when the snow began and continued working through the night and all day Tuesday.

"Two inches an hour is a lot to keep up with, but they did it with teamwork and hard work," Cohen said. "Now I'm just hoping for nice weather to melt it all."

Agawam Town Hall closed at 2 p.m. Monday and was closed on Tuesday. Many other area businesses were closed and some local cities - such as Northampton and Springfield - declared a state of emergency.

FireWise...

Take The "Love Test"

by Fire Chief David Pisano

It only takes a minute to do the "love test" for your family, by testing the batteries in your smoke detector.

Approximately two-thirds of American homes have installed smoke detectors, but one-third of those smoke detectors don't work. The reason - a dead or missing battery.

Each year in the United States, more than 500,000 home fires occur, resulting in 6,000 deaths and 130,000 serious injuries. Many of these tragedies could be avoided with properly installed and maintained smoke detectors. You should take the love test at least once a month and replace the batteries on an annual basis.

For more information on installing and maintaining smoke detectors, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

LEGAL NOTICE

Agawam Board Of Health

Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program

At the November 8, 2000 meeting, the Agawam Board of Health considered draft regulations entitled **BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS RESTRICTING YOUTH ACCESS TO TOBACCO**. The Board of Health invites comments regarding these proposed regulations at a public hearing on February 21, 2001 in the Community Room at the Agawam Police Department, 681 Springfield St., Agawam.

Complete copies of the regulation are available at the Agawam Health Department. A summary of the proposed regulations is as follows:

Sale of Tobacco Products to Minors is prohibited. Each retailer shall verify a purchaser's age by means of photographic identification which notes the purchaser's date of birth. Retailers must apply for an annual permit from the Agawam Board of Health to sell tobacco products. Retailers must post a copy of M.G.L. 270, Sec. 6 pertaining to the sale of tobacco products to minors at all cash registers. Tobacco vending machines are prohibited. Out of package sales of tobacco products is prohibited as are self-service displays and free samples.

Penalties for sales to minors are progressive with each violation within a calendar year. Penalties range from \$100 for the first offense to license suspension for the third offense. Penalties for other subsections of the regulation will result in a fine of \$100 per day per violation. Violations may be penalized by means of the non-criminal method of disposition.

Written comment will be accepted up until February 20, 2001 and can be addressed to the Agawam Board of Health, 36 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001.

Published: February 8, 2001

LEGAL NOTICE

Agawam School Committee Phone Numbers

Mr. Richard A. Cohen, Mayor/Chairperson
36 Main Street
Agawam, MA 01001
786-0400, Ext. 200

Mrs. Robert G. Doering, Vice Chair
915 River Road
Agawam, MA 01001
786-2323

Mrs. Susan A. Pettazzoni, Secretary
116 Granger Drive
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
786-9699

Mrs. Susan R. Dawson
21 Alexander Drive
Agawam, MA 01001
789-3400

Mrs. Linda M. Galarneau
24 Sycamore Terrace
Agawam, MA 01001
789-0245

Mrs. Teresa M. Kozloski
102 Meadow Street
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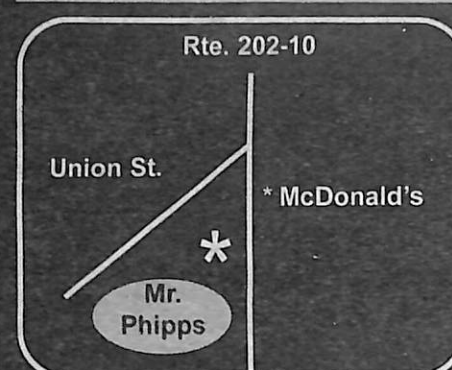
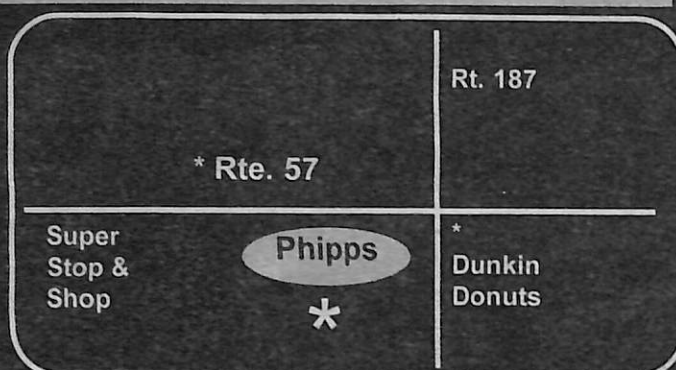
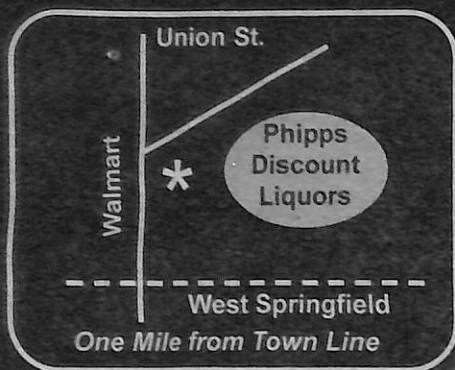
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White Zinfandel.....	\$6.99
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Guest Editorial...

Agawam's House Needs To Be In Order Before Implementing Full-Day Kindergarten Plan

by Susan Pettazzoni
Member, Agawam School Committee

I BELIEVE IN FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN FOR ALL AGAWAM CHILDREN. I BELIEVE IN THE EDUCATION OF ALL OUR CHILDREN, FROM PRE-K TO GRADE 12. HOWEVER, I BELIEVE AND SUPPORT THE BEST EDUCATION FOR ALL OUR CHILDREN WITH FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY.

The recent proposal that has surfaced again does not support all our children. What it does do is place the educational careers of all 4,000 children of the Agawam School System in jeopardy for approximately 70 children to attend full-day kindergarten.

The questions to ask are:

1. Educationally, are the needs of the kindergarten children presently in our school system being met with the curriculum we have in place?

ANSWER: At the School Committee meeting of January 23, 2001, this question was asked of each elementary school principal and they all answered...YES. The current MCAS results show that our grade four scores are above state average. Our curriculum is meeting the needs of our elementary children.

2. Is the proposed program equitable?

ANSWER: The program proposed is not equitable to ALL the children of our town. Currently, we have three full-day kindergartens, one each at Granger, Clark, and Robinson Park. These current programs enable our school system to educate those children with special needs, who make up one-half of the class, with peer partner children, making up the other one-half of the class, serving approximately 60 children. Enrollment for children entering kindergarten next year is approximately 320 students; however, the

proposed program will only service approximately 70 children. Please do the math: the \$217,000 for 70 children is extra money that would be added to the already \$5,900 that we spend per student. The full-day curriculum includes lunch, nap, and recess with extra time for specialties.

The parents/guardians in the Granger School district would have to transport their children to and from another elementary school "IF" they were lucky enough to be chosen in a lottery. How would this lottery look?...the children with I.E.P.'s (Individual Educational Plans for children with special needs under Chapter 766) would be first, in accordance with Mass. General Laws. Then what? How many girls and boys in each class for equity balance? How many children with 504 plans in each class? How many other 766-related situations allowed in each class?

3. How can we afford this proposed program?

ANSWER: This was unanswered by the Deputy Superintendent's memo dated January 31, 2001. The memo is a picture of a circular target with "Full-Day K" in the center, at an estimated cost of \$217,000 (with several unknown factors yet to be reported). All around the surrounding circles are the programs and requests that we need for ALL Agawam children. An arrow is pictured off to the side of the target with a balance of \$320,000, the remaining monies, after salaries are adjusted. The arrow reads, "TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT!"

Examples of the Programs and Requests in the surrounding circles are: Non-Users Club, \$2,250; Books, \$64,290; Supplies, \$91,090; Fourth-Grade Teacher for Clark (to prevent 36 children in a class-

room), \$35,000; Sixth-Grade Teacher, \$35,000; Library Assistant, \$15,000; Reading Recovery Teacher, \$8,724; Indoor Track, \$1,701; MCAS Tutoring, \$42,000; Tech-Ed Teacher, \$35,000; Elementary Library Books for their Media Centers, \$24,280; Teacher Mentoring Program, \$20,000; 504 (a federal program for children in all the school system), \$35,000; Computers, \$265,169; Special Education, \$414,171; and these examples are not all! (Total of all Programs and Requests, \$1,776,604.)

The memo speaks clearly. We need to make a choice - the proposed full-day kindergarten or NOT continuing to support the EDUCATIONAL DECISIONS that have already been made and the EDUCATIONAL DECISIONS of our site-based school teams and principals.

The School Committee has committed to full-day kindergarten at Phelps School, which would then accomplish the task of full-day kindergarten at each elementary school (remember, we already have one full-day kindergarten at Granger, Clark, and Robinson Park). This is a good start; this is educationally sound, fiscally accountable and equitable. We can attain a grant for \$15,000 (which has specific guidelines for spending, as all grants do, as do the requirements for spending Chapter 70 monies) for the Phelps program. We must also follow the Kindergarten Task Force recommendation to continue researching and studying all aspects for full-day kindergarten for ALL Agawam children.

It is obvious that we need to make choices, but the choices we make affect ALL of the CHILDREN OF AGAWAM as well as the citizens of the city, known as the Town of Agawam.



Letters To The Editor

If You Can't Stand The Noise, Get Out Of The Gym!

To The Editor:

Recently, I was a spectator at my daughter's basketball game. My daughter scored two baskets, almost in a row.

In the excitement, I hooted and hollered a bit. Prior to this, I hadn't done anything but clap. A grandmother from the "opposing" team turned around and VERY RUDELY advised me not to yell in her ear.

As you can imagine, I was a bit taken back and quickly responded that I was cheering for my daughter and she could move if she had a problem with noise.

The purpose of my letter is to remind people that if you have an issue with noise or cheering, you don't belong at a youth basketball game (or any game, for that matter).

As a parent, I will proudly continue cheering for my daughter as long as she plays sports!!!

Sincerely,
Dawn Struck
Agawam

Clarifying An Opinion On Full-Day Kindergarten

To The Editor:

An article in your paper misquoted one word, thereby changing the entire context of my statement. I would like to clarify that.

My statement should have read "our population ... is so used to full-day daycare ... now they want full-

day kindergarten, but it should not be up to the school committee to PROVIDE that." By misquoting me in your article stating that I don't feel the committee should DECIDE that, it seems that I don't believe in their voting power, which is not true.

My statement hinged on the fact that our changing society is looking for a solution to their childcare problems by expanding the kindergarten to full day. I feel that a kindergarten-aged child should have some time during the day to learn through spontaneous play, not through curriculum-directed activities.

That would include one-on-one reading, outdoor exploration, and guided experimentation with manipulatives ... all of which can be done at home with his parents.

Steve Atwater
Agawam

For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

City Council Mtg. Rescheduled For Wed., Feb. 14th

The regular Agawam City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, February 5, 2001 was postponed and has been rescheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. at the Agawam Middle School.

If you visit the Advertiser News' new office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Please park on the side of the building and use the back entrance. Thank you...



The Agawam Advertiser News

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The State Of The City Address

Mayor Richard A. Cohen - January 23, 2001 - (Part 2 of 2)

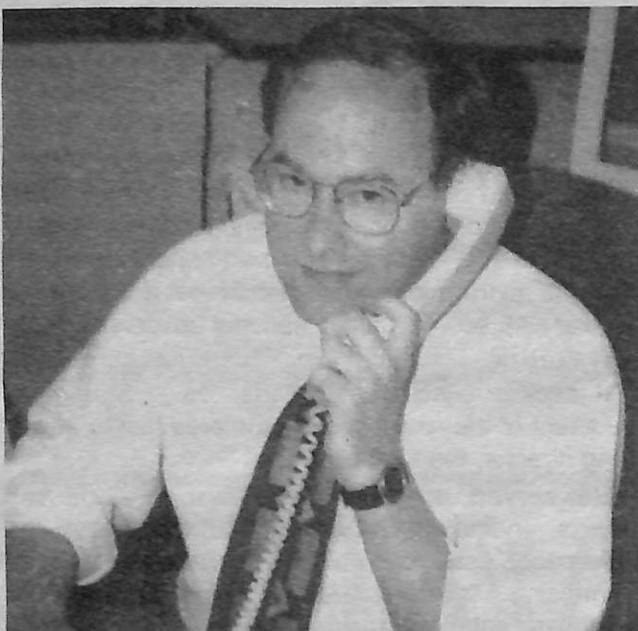
This year, the Wastewater Division oversaw the completion of the Combined Sewer Overflow Elimination project. This project involved the installation of new drains and sewers and allowed the city to eliminate all of the overflow from its sewer system to the Connecticut and Westfield Rivers. Proudly, Agawam is one of the first area communities to complete this tremendous project that will positively affect our environment.

Funds were also appropriated to update the long-range facilities plan for the extension of sewer service into southerly and western portions of Feeding Hills. This plan of study has been submitted to the Massachusetts Division of Environmental Protection for their approval to maintain eligibility for funding assistance for the future construction of sewers in this area.

During 2000, the city extended its recycling efforts providing service for condominiums, apartments, schools, and public buildings. As a result, the tonnage of recycling materials from Agawam has increased by some 100 tons per month. Not only is this good for the environment, but it also reduces disposal costs and has generated an additional payment to Agawam of \$12,900 for delivered recyclables from the materials recovery facility.

The city continues to successfully operate the Agawam Municipal Golf Course. The year 2000 saw a poor weather season, yet we were able to realize a revenue surplus of \$56,170. The construction of over a mile of eight-foot wide paved golf cart paths was accomplished. We acquired 72 new golf carts and have greatly enhanced the operation of the golf course. Also, an architect's design of the second floor of the clubhouse has been finalized and it is anticipated that renovations to this area will be completed in the spring of 2001.

This year has brought innovation and improvement in the area of recreation. The city hired Berkshire Design Group to provide a plan for active and passive recreational use of the former Hampden County property on School Street and River Road. Proposed plans for the use of this property were presented to the public for input in November. A final plan is expected by spring of this year. We look forward to the use of this property, which will greatly enhance our playing



MAYOR RICHARD A. COHEN

fields and open space.

The city has also constructed a new shuffleboard court at St. John's Field in the summer of 2000 for use by our seniors and any other shuffleboard enthusiasts.

Perry Lane Park saw tremendous improvements with the installation of two new playscapes, one of which was installed for use by the preschool children. Additionally, the tennis courts were reconstructed, paved and newly fenced, and now offer a much needed improvement to the park. A "challenge course" is being designed and will be ready for the campers at our very successful Perry Lane Day Camp this summer.

I am both excited and proud that in November of 2000, we broke ground for the city's first skateboard park to be located at Shea's Field. The tennis court was reconstructed, graded, and paved to create the base for the skateboard park. This park has been completely funded by donations from our business community, civic organizations, and citizens. We anticipate a ground opening in May.

Other new Park & Recreation-sponsored activities include our first Battle of the Bands held in July at the

High School. This was a tremendous success with more than 300 people in attendance and eight bands participating. It was enjoyed by people of all ages. The city has also developed and implemented activities for February and April school vacation weeks for our children. In addition, our first Family Fun Night was held last October and was well attended.

Another of my major goals is to fill empty storefronts to enhance planning and community development. To that end, the city has formulated a partnership with Springfield Technical Community College to foster the expansion and development of retail and small businesses. Through the combined efforts of the Agawam Chamber of Commerce, the Springfield Enterprise Center, Springfield Technical Community College, and the Agawam Planning Department, a business survey was prepared and mailed to Agawam businesses to gather information regarding growth and retention of businesses in Agawam. Results of the completed surveys are presently being compiled.

The new State Veterans' Cemetery will be dedicated this May and we are very proud to be the home of the first state veterans' cemetery in the Commonwealth through the generosity of Mr. Ed Squazza. I would also like to pause to thank Ruth Bitzas, retired Veterans' Agent, for her many dedicated years of service to the district's veterans. Ruth did a tremendous job for our veterans and will continue to do so in her new role as Volunteer Coordinator at the State Veterans' Cemetery.

We also anticipate the opening of the city's historical museum at the former fire station on Elm Street this May. This museum would not be possible without the tireless efforts of our dedicated Historical Association and donations by our business community and citizens.

The Fire Department now has 11 paramedic level EMT's, seven intermediate level EMT's, and 13 basic EMT's. Our commitment is hiring advanced level EMT's provides the Agawam Fire Department superiority in its ambulance service and the city's continuing commitment to public safety. We are currently studying the feasibility of operating an ambulance from the Fire Headquarters on Main Street and operating an

SEE MAYOR COHEN - Page 7



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- Agawam Obituaries -

CONNIE T. AVERY

Connie T. (Jarvis) Avery, 66, of Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was employed by Storowton Tavern in West Springfield for 34 years.

Born in Manchester, CT, she lived in Agawam for most of her life.

She leaves eight daughters, Kathleen Cooley, Karen Ouimet, Laura Avery-Gagnier, and Lisa Cross, all of West Springfield, Carol Barszez of Chicopee, Connie Miller of Hilton, New York, and Colleen Avery and Linda Avery, both of Agawam; two brothers, George and Arthur Jarvis of Manchester, CT; three sisters, her twin, Carol Bruzzi of Stafford Springs, CT, Dorothy Young of South Lyme, CT, and Claire Moore of Willimantic, CT; and nine grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with burial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the National Stroke Association, 9707 East Easter Lane, Englewood, CO 80112.

DWIGHT L. BROUILLARD

Former Feeding Hills resident Dwight L. Brouillard, 64, the former advertising director of the Union-News and Sunday Republican, died on Saturday afternoon, February 3rd, at Tampa General Hospital in Florida.

He suffered a heart attack on New Year's Day and underwent open heart surgery three days later. According to his daughter, Lynn Ann Gilbert of West Springfield, he died from complications.

He was known locally for the bevy of community boards he served on (including Greater Holyoke Inc., Homebuilders Association of Greater Springfield, and the Spirit of Springfield), and nationally for his expertise on retail advertising.

An avid golfer, he and his wife, Jacqueline, moved from their West Springfield home last year to spend his retirement in Ruskin, Florida.

During his 45-year career with the Springfield Newspapers, he committed himself to a number of groups, from Springfield School Volunteers to the Springfield and Holyoke Chambers of Commerce.

He started out as a paper boy, and worked in the newspapers' distribution center and pressroom before moving to the advertising department. After three years as an account executive in the retail advertising department, he was named national advertising manager in 1972.

A decade later, then-Publisher David Starr (now president of the newspapers) promoted him to advertising director, the top position.

He served on prominent newspaper industry boards, including the Retail Committee of the Newspaper Association of America and the National Advertising Association. He was also a director of the American Diabetes Organization.

In 1999, Springfield Mayor Michael J. Albano declared December 24th (his retirement day) as "Dwight L. Brouillard Day."

In addition to his wife and daughter, he is survived by two sons, Dwight Jr. of Tiverton, Rhode Island, and Michael Joseph of Orchard Park, New York; two sisters, Carol A. McGeary and Faith A. Smith, both of Springfield; a brother, William F. Brouillard of Orlando, Florida; and three grandchildren.

The funeral will be held at St. Thomas Church in West Springfield on Friday morning, February 9th, with Mass beginning at 10:00 a.m. The calling hours were scheduled for Thursday, February 8th, at the Curran-Jones West Springfield Funeral Home from

2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

LUCIEN O. HOULE

Lucien O. Houle, 77, of 131 Suffield Street, Agawam, died recently at Fawcett Memorial Hospital in Port Charlotte, Florida.

He was retired from Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Co. in East Hartford, CT, where he worked for 40 years as a lead man machinist.

Born in the Willimansett section of Chicopee, he lived in Agawam since 1955.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church and was an Army veteran of World War II.

His first wife, Anna (Iannuzzi) Houle, died in 1982.

He leaves his wife, the former Marjorie Lumbr of Agawam; two sons, Thomas A. of Southwick and John H. of Agawam; two daughters, Cynthia A. Olson of Feeding Hills and Janet R. Stowe of Westfield; a stepson, Oscar Noel of Chatham, New York; a stepdaughter, Barbara Garrow of Las Vegas, Nevada; a brother, Roger of Springfield; a sister, Margaret Tucker of Florida; six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, Western Massachusetts Division, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 9A, West Springfield, MA 01089.

STELLA KRAJEWSKI

Stella (Gizara) Krajewski, 86, of Agawam, died recently at home.

She worked at the former Bigelow Sanford Carpet

SEE OBITS - Page 7

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OBITS - from Page 6

Co. in the Thompsonville section of Enfield, CT, and at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Division of United Technologies Corp. in East Hartford, CT, for 30 years. She retired in 1985.

Born in Thompsonville, she lived in Suffield, CT, for 25 years before moving to Agawam two years ago.

She was a communicant of St. Adalbert's Church in Enfield.

She was predeceased by her husband, Joseph Krajewski.

She leaves two brothers and five sisters.

The funeral was held at Browne Memorial Funeral Chapels, with burial in the parish cemetery, both in Enfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church at 90 Alden Avenue, Enfield, CT 06082, or any other charity.

MARION MENGIS

Marion Mengis, 94, of Cooper Street, Agawam, died recently in local nursing home.

She was an office worker at Springfield Hospital for many years.

Born in Peekskill, New York, she was a graduate of Agawam High School and lived in Feeding Hills for most of her life.

She leaves a sister, Elizabeth Cloutier of Agawam, and a niece, Nancy Fiske of Westmoreland, New Hampshire.

A private graveside service was held in Springfield Street Cemetery. Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

EMMA L. RICCI

Emma L. Ricci, 87, a lifelong resident of Agawam, died recently at her Quail Run home.

She was a secretary to Judge Francisconi in the Springfield Juvenile Court until the age of 70, and was previously a 30-year secretary in the engineering department of Strathmore Paper Co.

She graduated from Agawam High School and took secretarial courses at Bay Path Institute in Springfield (now Bay Path College in Longmeadow).

A Coast Guard veteran of World War II, she was an instructor at the Coast Guard Training School for SPARS (women members) in Palm Beach, Florida. She later served with the Rescue Division of the Third Naval District in New York City.

She was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua Church and a member of the Springfield Chapter of National Secretaries and the Agawam Senior Center.

She leaves her sister, Ida Colli of Agawam, and a niece and nephew.

The funeral will be held on Friday morning, February 9th, at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with burial in St. Thomas the Apostle Cemetery, West Springfield. Calling hours will precede the funeral.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 9A, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Veterans' Corner...

Seeking Donations For Grand Opening Of Vets' Cemetery

by Edward A. Kellogg

Director (Western Hampden District)

The Agawam Veterans' Office is asking businesses and residents alike to consider donating money to help support the official grand opening of the Veterans' Cemetery on May 21, 2001. All proceeds will go towards this event. We are expecting a very large turn-out for this memorable day.

Please make checks payable to: **Western Mass. Cemetery Fund**. Mail all donations to: Veterans' Service Officer, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Dept. of Veterans' Services at 786-0400, ext. 236/237. This year is destined to be a very memorable and significant one for veterans, our town, and our Commonwealth.

Thank you again for your continued support.

MAYOR COHEN - from Page 5

additional ambulance from the Feeding Hills station. A new computer system, called Fire Server, tied into the Enhanced 911 System, has been installed and allows caller information to be downloaded at our dispatch center. We have purchased 24 new, state-of-the-art Scott Air Packs to replace 15-year-old units for the safety of our firefighters.

The Police Department now has four new police officers who graduated from the Police Academy in March and began their police career in the fall with the city. Three new police vehicles have been purchased and the equipment on three existing police vehicles have been updated in our continued effort to provide safety to both our police officers and our citizens. Additionally, the purchase of a second, fully-equipped Harley Davidson police motorcycle was made possible by a police grant for enhanced traffic safety.

As we begin the new millennium, I am confident that the city is well prepared and well managed to meet the many challenges to come. With your continued support and commitment, I hope to accomplish many of my additional goals in the coming year.

I want to close by thanking all those who attended this evening and all those who are watching at home. I also want to thank my family and friends and most importantly, the people of Agawam for their support. I especially wish to thank all the department heads. They have helped make my first year as mayor a wonderful experience and success.

I am very proud to serve as your mayor. I truly enjoy working with the dedicated and talented individuals employed by the city. It is also a pleasure to work with all those who volunteer their time for our community. With their continued support and assistance, Agawam will continue to prosper now and in the future.

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Fresh Ground Chuck (5 Lbs. Or More)	\$1.69 Lb.
Center Cut Pork Chops	\$1.99 Lb.
Center Cut Pork Roast (Bone In)	\$1.99 Lb.
Loin End Roast	\$1.69 Lb.
Rib End Roast	\$1.49 Lb.
Country Style Ribs	\$1.89 Lb.
Fresh Ground Pork	\$1.69 Lb.
Boneless Pork Roast (Cut From Loin Or Rib End)	\$1.99 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast Whole	\$1.19 Lb.
Split	\$1.39 Lb.

DELI

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Austrian Alps Imported Swiss Cheese	\$3.49 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.69 Lb.
Russer Virginia Baked Ham	\$3.49 Lb.

Russer Low-Salt Ham	\$3.49 Lb.
Citterio Mortadella (With Pistachio)	\$2.89 Lb.
Russer Kielbasa Loaf	\$2.89 Lb.
Deutschmacher German Liverwurst	\$1.99 Lb.
Store-Made Sandwich Spread	\$2.99 Lb.
2 Lbs.	\$4.00

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Danielle DeForge Chosen As Agawam's First-Ever Colleen

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

While guests mingled over coffee at the February 4th brunch at Chez Josef, three judges on the floor above were interviewing five colleen finalists in an effort to select Agawam's first-ever colleen.

Each of the entrants to the colleen contest has demonstrated poise, charm, and ambition. They have been guests at many local functions and have come to be thought of as "the five colleens."

They have been a group of sweet, smiling faces who seemed more like sisters than adversaries. Difficult decision though it was, the judges had to make a choice.

When they signaled that their decision had been reached, there was scarcely time for hearts to leap into throats before Mistress of Ceremonies Kathleen Welsh announced, "The winner is Danielle DeForge."

To the credit of each remaining contestant, there was only joy and congratulations from the remaining contenders, who now will become Danielle's court.

Irish eyes were smiling and so were the eyes of everyone as the crown was placed on Danielle's head and each of the colleens received beautiful bouquets of flowers. A special note of thanks is due to Angela Shuman Grote of Agawam Flowers, who donated the bouquets for the mistress of ceremonies, for each of the colleens, for the head table arrangement, and for centerpieces at every table.

The colleens' bouquets, those of the co-chairs, and the head table centerpieces had Bells of Ireland in them; lovely, pale green flowers similar to lillies of the valley and quite difficult to obtain. Bouquets for the judges and boutonnières for the escorts were also generously provided by Agawam Flowers.

This first St. Patrick's Colleen Brunch was an event both uplifting and positive.

After enjoying a morning social, guests were seated and introductions began, with introductions to the co-chairs of the Colleen Committee, Sue Dawson and Colleen Tourville.

Mistress of Ceremonies Kathleen Welsh, a former Rose of Tralee herself, announced the names and backgrounds of the three judges, Anne Dewolf, July Matt, and Alan Neelans, noting that the choice would be extremely difficult.

The presentation of the finalists followed; each of the five finalists gracefully entered the banquet hall and descended winding stairs, while her accomplishments, goals, and activities were read by Ms. Welsh.

Ashley Guiel, Lori O'Dea, Meagan Langevin, Danielle DeForge, and Emily Morton each have impressive credentials. The history of the Parade Committee was given by Sue Dawson and Colleen Tourville.

After the winner was announced, Colleen Danielle DeForge and her court marched around the banquet hall. Father William Lunney of St. John the Evangelist Church said grace, and a delicious brunch followed, along with socializing and congratulations for the new colleen.

Danielle Marie DeForge is the daughter of the late Jane McGrath DeForge and Mr. & Mrs. Mark DeForge. She graduated from Agawam High School in 1999 and is a sophomore at American University in Washington, D.C., majoring in elementary education and is on the dean's list.

She was swim coach for the Agawam Piranhas for five years; is swim manager of her university swim team, and works at the Health Club and Campus Facilities.

Her aspirations for the future include working as a kindergarten teacher and traveling.

Danielle told us, "I was trying not to get my hopes up too much. I felt lucky that I made it as far as finalist, so I really wasn't nervous. I just told myself to be honest with myself and with the judges. I'm most looking forward to the parade (Holyoke) and the trip to



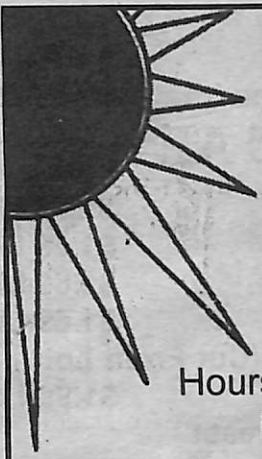
THE LUCK OF THE IRISH WAS SMILIN' on Agawam as the town's first Colleen was selected at Chez Josef. From left: Meagan Langevin and Lori O'Dea, Colleen's Court; Richard A. Cohen, Mayor; Father William Lunney, St. John's Church, who gave the invocation; Robert Magovern, co-chairman of the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee; Danielle DeForge, Colleen; and Emily Morton and Ashley Guiel, Colleen's Court. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



AGAWAM'S FIRST COLLEEN, Danielle DeForge, with her proud parents, Maggie & Mark DeForge, and her two younger sisters, Kerry and Mary Kate. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



AGAWAM ST. PATRICK'S COMMITTEE co-chairpersons Angela Phillips & Robert Magovern present a shamrock-shaped plaque to be placed in the Agawam Town Hall, during festivities selecting the town's first Colleen on Feb. 4th at Chez Josef. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



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COLLEEN - from Page 8
Ireland."

Danielle is not certain of her itinerary when she reaches Ireland and she still has not decided who will go with her.

"But everyone has volunteered," she laughed. "I went to Ireland once when I was in eighth grade, because a close friend asked me to go with her and stay with her at her relative's. I did visit the Blarney Stone and we rode on double-decker busses quite a bit. Most of the time was spent in Cork and in Dublin. This trip will be great because I think I will appreciate it a lot more at this stage in my life. This entire experience has been incredibly exciting. I see the whole thing as really positive."

Danielle said that the most challenging question posed by the judges was what she would do as colleen. "Up until then, everything was planned for us. Until the judges asked, I had not thought about my goals as colleen. I answered that I wanted to include the whole community, not just the Irish, and kids of all ages, not just girls my age."

Danielle is close to her mother, Maggie, her father, Mark (Agawam's Postmaster), her two sisters, Mary Kate and Kerry, her grandparents, Phillip and Penny DeForge.

She descended from one of Agawam's original Irish families, John O'Brien and Catherine Dally O'Brien, who settled in the community in the mid-1800's and lived on the property known by Agawam natives as "O'Brien's Corner." John and Catherine O'Brien were the grandparents of Danielle's great-grandmother, Catherine Connor DeForge. John O'Brien's sister was the aunt with whom Anne Sullivan (*The Miracle Worker*) lived to the age of 12.

The Parade Committee and the Colleen Committee both originated from Town Councilor Robert Magovern's need to correct a problem. "Agawam has never had an assigned place to march in the Holyoke Parade. I can remember marching with the Agawam Band in my school years and marching with the City Council. We never had a specific place that was ours. This got my Irish up. This was not the way things should be," Magovern said.

He placed announcements in the newspaper, asking for people to help get a Parade Committee started.

"In the first few months, just two or three of us were meeting down at Friendly's. Ironically, I was going through some old newspaper clippings and right on top was one showing the last time a coronation took place in Agawam. It was in 1960 at the King Lion coronation at the Agawam football field. The queen was Carol Lapine. And the person who was crowning her was my dad, John Magovern! That told me it was too long since our last coronation. I never could have gotten things done without my co-chair, Angela Phillips. I really want to thank everyone.

"We learned that volunteerism is alive and well in Agawam. This shows what we can do when we put our shoulders together. I also want to thank Travel Majic of Springfield St., Feeding Hills for their generous donation of two round-trip airline tickets to Ireland for the colleen. The colleen will also receive a \$500 scholarship. We also want to thank Six Flags for all their support and participation. And Agawam Flowers deserves our deep gratitude for their generous contributions of centerpieces, bouquets, and boutonnieres. Bancroft Bridals and Berkshire Power have helped immensely as have so many other supporters in this new Agawam effort," added Magovern.

Angela Phillips remembered that they spoke with Jack O'Brien, chairman of the South Hadley Parade Committee.

"He said to start with a 'small scale colleen.' He told us that every year, things got bigger from their original parade plans. We needed to plan our float and we wanted to have a colleen. I thought it turned into a lovely affair. If I had been a stranger who happened to visit the colleen announcement ceremonies, I would have described it as 'perfect.'

"The way each girl made her entrance was elegant, yet natural. The St. Patrick's Committee deserves accolades for their dedication. It was a spectacular event and I was proud to be a part of it. I have met some of the nicest people. We aren't through yet. We'll be starting over for next year," Angela said.

Co-Chair Susan Dawson, also on the School Committee, wanted to thank Colleen Tourville for stepping in as her co-chairwoman.

"If I had imagined the perfect co-chairperson, Colleen would have been it," Mrs. Dawson told us. "The girls practiced with the committee for two hours a day for two days before the Colleen Brunch, teaching them how to count between steps, when to stop, when to sit. I think it worked out to be a very dignified event. The entire experience was so much fun. I don't even know how to say how wonderful they are. I could not have picked the colleen.

"Each one will be a part of my life for the rest of my life. All of these girls are great representatives for Agawam. Every one of them is a winner," said Mrs. Dawson.

Magovern asked for people to volunteer to work on Agawam's first float and announced that a corned beef fundraiser will be held on March 6th at the Italian Sportsman's Club. There are other exciting projects, proceedings, and fundraising events in the works for

Agawam's civic-minded. The Agawam Parade Committee Board of Directors includes Bob Magovern, Angela Phillips, Susan Dawson, Paul Kelley, Mary Broadhurst, Bill Pfau, Bob Fitzpatrick, Owen Broadhurst, Colleen Tourville, Lowell McLane, Debbie Moriarty, and George Bitzas.

The Colleen Committee includes Kathleen Welsh, Rita Moore, Pam Jones, Stephanie McLane, School Committee member Rosemary Sandlin, and Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Tourville.

A spark has been ignited in the Town of Agawam which has led to cultural, educational, and social opportunities and will likely continue to do so, it is hoped, for years to come. This is all thanks to a group of visionaries who had the spunk to try to change their place in the lineup of a local parade and to find their own designated position, following in the direction that it led them.

There is a good chance that Agawam's people will gratefully remember this first year of the Parade Committee and the Colleen Committee with fond gratitude for the foundation that was created in these whirlwind months.

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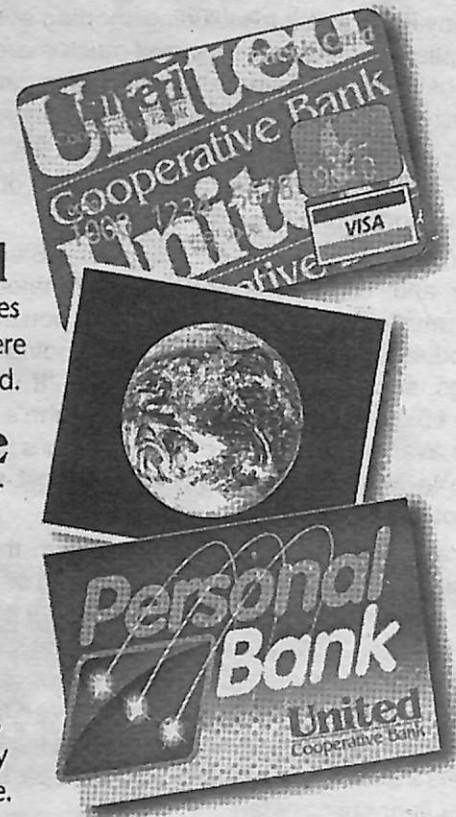
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Families

Chefs Create Magic To Make Cancer Disappear

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

The 11th Great Chefs fundraiser for the Jimmy Fund, presented by People's Bank and held in the Young Building on the Eastern States Exposition grounds, offered celestial cuisine from 43 chefs area restaurants on January 26th from 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Anne Marie Rizzo, spokesperson for the Jimmy Fund, told *The Agawam Advertiser News* that nearly 1,300 people attended this year's culinary affair. The event raised almost \$50,000 this year and in past years has been responsible for raising \$240,000 for cancer research at Boston's Dana Farber Cancer Institute, a world-renowned pioneer in discovering and developing innovative, effective cancer therapies for adults and children.

This year's theme, Great Chefs Make Magic, implies the wish to make cancer disappear.

Great Chefs has become one of the area's most successful fundraising events while bringing people together in a comfortable, productive setting. Tickets were \$50 for adults and \$20 for children. The price allowed participants to amble from booth to booth, sampling some of the best cuisine available in the area.

Each participating restaurant had divine delicacies prepared, waiting to be tasted. Many of the chefs presented sumptuous sweets, such as chocolate-covered strawberries.

Magicians entertained for the crowds, and several of the chefs dressed like magicians and waved magic wands over the food they'd cooked.

Guests could bid on more than 100 select items in the Jimmy Fund auction, including sporting event tickets, ski passes, theater tickets, and much more. A raffle was held with a Florida trip as first prize and other great prizes for second and third prize winners.

Dozens of Agawam's businesses were among those who donated gift certificates, goods, or services to this worthwhile event.

Adding to the mood of the affair, Blue Moon Agency and D.J. Ross McDonald donated background music for the 11th year, with powerful and well-modulated amplification and outstanding choices of songs, such as Jefferson Starship's "If Only You Believe Like I Believe," Olivia Newton-John's "Got To Believe We Are Magic," Lovin' Spoonful's "Do You Believe In Magic?" and many more, most with the theme of magic.

The selections went hand-in-hand with the Great Chef theme and helped set the mood. And the food—**the food!** Agawam was well-represented by several of our superb restaurants, serving up succulent, savory samples of their delightful dishes. **Christo's Restaurant, Partners Restaurant, Olive Oil's, and Chef Josef** spooned out mouth-watering cuisine, and Westfield's School Stree Bistro also took part, serving some of their culinary fare.

Giovanni's Pastry Shop pleased the guests so much with their delectable desserts that they "sold out," so to speak.

Cost of admittance also included wine-tasting tables to complement the culinary creations of the Great Chefs. This is one area event which should not be missed. It is one of the most satisfying and enjoyable annual affairs available in the Greater Springfield area.

For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classifieds each and every week...AAN!!!



SAMPLING THE CUISINE from Chez Josef of Agawam is Melanie Bernier (right) as Chez Josef staff members offer their assistance. From left: Chefs Cory A. Casden (with wand), Marcel Ouimet, and John McKay, and owner Linda S. Skole. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



THE GANG FROM OLIVE OIL'S RESTAURANT on Springfield St., Feeding Hills were "Great Chefs" for The Jimmy Fund. From left: David Larivee, Kaila Larivee, Tony Marsili, owner Frank Pugliano, and little chef Nicola Pugliano. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



IN LEFT PHOTO: Shirley Wilson (left) of Agawam, balloon consultant for Party Warehouse, helped to decorate the Young Building at The Big E for "The Great Chefs" benefit fundraiser for The Jimmy Fund. Shirley used 8,200 balloons to create her magic for the cause. **In right photo:** Christo's Restaurant on Suffield Street participated in "The Great Chefs" fundraiser to benefit The Jimmy Fund. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

"Great Chefs" Fundraiser A Huge Success



MARK & SUE TANSEY (left photo), owners of Partners Restaurant on Springfield Street, made mouth-watering magic at the 11th Annual "Great Chefs" fundraiser to benefit The Jimmy Fund over at The Big E. In right photo: Giovanni's Italian Bakery & Coffee Shop on Main St., Agawam, watched the wonderful pastries and goodies it brought over to "The Great Chefs" fundraiser for The Jimmy Fund be quickly devoured. Giovanni's owners (from left) are Teresa, Tony, and Bruno Russo. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

Father/Daughter Valentine Dance To Benefit Open Pantry

Agawam Church of the Bible will hold its first annual Father/Daughter Valentine's Dance on Saturday, February 17th, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The dance will take place at the Agawam Junior High School, and fathers and daughters of all ages are welcome to attend.

Plans for the evening include refreshments, door prizes, a DJ, dancing, Karaoke, raffle prizes, and loads of fun. The church plans on making this a yearly event, with the proceeds going to a charity of

choice.

Tickets will be \$7 per person and can be purchased at the church office (Wednesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) or Sundays at the Agawam Junior High between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. The church office is located above the Cornerstone Christian Bookstore at 335 Walnut Street in Agawam. For further information or questions, please call the church at 789-2904.

Help us celebrate Valentine's Day with a wonderful

memory for dads and daughters, and by helping so many others in need.

Dads, treat your daughters on this special day ... show them who's loved in a wonderful way.

Go dancing in style with the girls you adore ... take them out, it won't be a bore!

There's dancing and prizes, with fun it's true ... making memories to last a lifetime through.

Come to this dance in the Junior High hall ... Happy Valentine's Day to one and all!!!



Valentine's Day Never Tasted So Good!!



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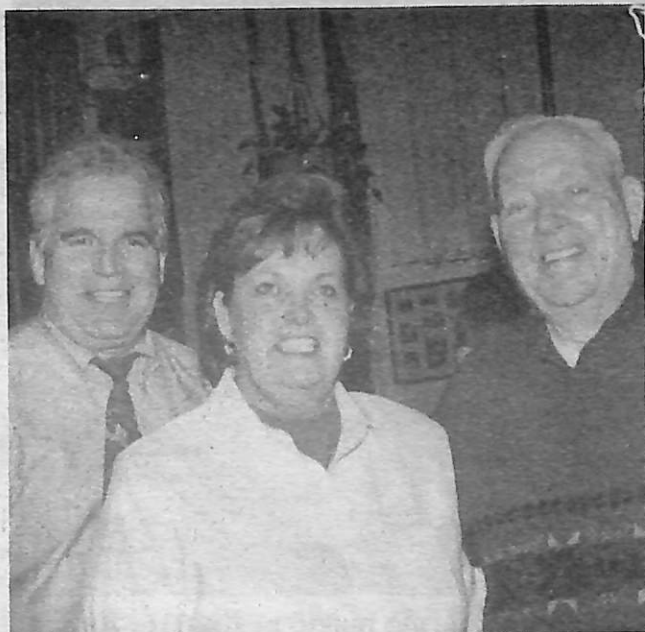
Come In & Register To Win A Heart-Shaped Chocolate Mousse Cake That Feeds 40!!!

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St. Patrick's Committee Continues Fundraising



THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK'S COMMITTEE has continued its fundraising in anticipation of the big day in Holyoke for the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. The committee held a fundraiser at E.B's Restaurant last week. In left photo above (from left): Joe Fitzpatrick, Lynn Fitzpatrick, and Bill Pfau, all members of the float committee. In right photo: St. Patrick's Committee members (from left) Angela Phillips, co-chairwoman; Eamonn Burke; Lowell McLane; Amy Langevin, a member of the Colleen's Court; and Robert Magovern, co-chairperson, at last week's fundraiser held at E.B's Restaurant on Walnut St. Ext. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



SOME OF THE FOLKS who have helped to make the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee such a success include (from left) Owen Broadhurst, treasurer; Mary Broadhurst, treasurer; and Rita Moore, Colleen Committee & Publicity Committee. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



SIX FLAGS NEW ENGLAND has given lots of support to the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee and sent a group of its employees to last week's fundraiser held at E.B's Restaurant. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Agawam Sr. Ctr.'s Weekly Lunch Menu

Mon., Feb. 12th: Chili dog on roll, potato wedges, green bean salad, banana.

Tues., Feb. 13th: Chicken stew w/buttermilk biscuits, salad, rye bread, chocolate pudding.

Wed., Feb. 14th: Roast turkey, stuffing, butternut squash, cranberry, whole wheat bread, ice cream.

Thurs., Feb. 15th: Ziti w/meatballs, marinated vegetable salad, breadstick, mocha smoothie.

Fri., Feb. 16th: Clam chowder, French bread pizza w/pepperoni, potato & egg salad, mixed fruit.

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Dinner Dance For Epilepsy Awareness Scheduled For Saturday, March 10th

"If you add a little to a little, and then do it again, soon that little shall be much." - Hesiod.

The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee will host its **Seventh Annual Dinner Dance for Epilepsy Awareness** and Silent Auction on Saturday evening, March 10th, at Chez Josef in Agawam, Massachusetts.

We are very honored to announce that this year's Dinner Dance will be **dedicated in memory of James "Jay" Lyons**, one of the six firefighters who lost their lives fighting the Worcester fire on December 3, 1999. Jay had a very special place in his heart for his young niece, Cara, who suffers from epilepsy. He wanted to see his favorite girl seizure-free. We hope that one day, through our efforts, his dream and our dream will come true!

This year's **"Inspiration for a Cure Award"** will be awarded to **Dr. Ed Bromfield**. He will be honored for his commitment and dedication to the many people who are afflicted by epilepsy. **Dr. Bromfield** will join our past recipients, Dr. Fred Hirschenfang, Millicent Kelly, L.D., RD, Dr. George Howard, and Bill Murphy, Executive Director of the Epilepsy Foundation of MA & RI, to receive this prestigious award. The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee (WMEAC) is honored that Dr. Bromfield has accepted our invitation to attend this gala event.

The WMEAC is comprised of approximately 20 committed people. Their main goal is to bring epilepsy awareness to our surrounding communities and to provide support for organizations that render services to the thousands of people who live with epilepsy every day. They were very excited about having donated over \$30,000 to help support Camp Wee-Kan-Tu, "A Camp for Champs," over the past two years!

Last year's event raised approximately \$40,000, and this was donated to the Epilepsy Foundation of MA & RI to help with the many different programs that it offers. The EFM & RI is the only not-for-profit organization serving the more than 80,000 people from these states who live with epilepsy and seizure disorders. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit epilepsy research and establish the James "Jay" Lyons Scholarship.

Last year, we had over 700 people in attendance! Please come and show your support for **Dr. Bromfield, the Epilepsy Foundation of MA & RI, and for the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee**. Tickets are \$30 per person, or you may reserve a table of 10 for \$300.

For more information, please call Carol Pietroniro at 786-9452.

Taking A Moment...

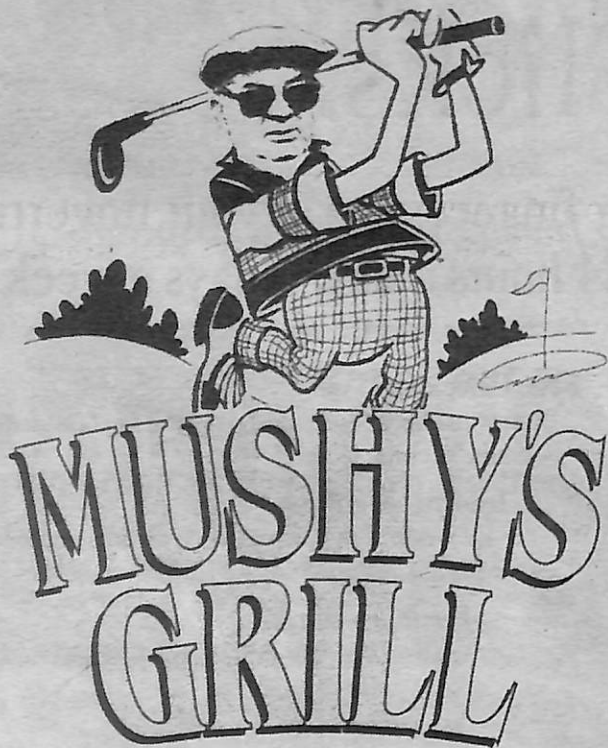


ALBINO DALLO-PEGORARA took a moment out from his lunch at the Agawam Senior Center to talk with **Gail Freeman**, deputy director of the Senior Center, and **Florida Tangocci**, the center's popular art teacher. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Please remember to patronize
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For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice prior to your event. Thank you.

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How To Choose The Right Lipstick

Question: I can't seem to find the right lipstick. I either look washed out or like I'm all mouth. My lips are dry and nothing looks right.

Answer: I recommend that your first thought be your skin tone, then the time of year and color of your clothes. Next, the formula that you choose should be right for your look.

If your skin tone is pale, then a little color will go a long way. Sheer formulas with a hint of color is all you probably need. Nudes, beige tones, and light pink or coral will be flattering to you. If you have a medium colored complexion, try a brown-based mauve, sheer berry, or spicy brown. Asian women look great in red with golden undertones or a pink shimmer. If your skin is dark, select rich, deep shades such as burgundy, plum, or chocolate.

There are four formulas to choose from. *Sheer* formulas are moisturizing and lightweight but are not long-lasting. They can allow your own lip color to shine through or can add a slight tint of color. *Creams* are most diversified because they are not only moist, but are longer-wearing. Be careful when choosing a shade as cream formulations are opaque. *Shimmer* (frosted) lipsticks look best if your lips are not dry or chapped. Anyone can wear this type and these can make the lips appear fuller. Last, *Matt* lipsticks can be drying, are the longest-wearing, and can really make a statement. Just beware if your lips are dry or chapped as these will not flatter you.

To select a color, keep in mind the time of year, and go ahead and play with the shades. Lipstick will show your personality and mood. What looks good on your best friend may not look good on you. Go to a cosmetic counter and try on new shades. Choose deep, rich colors for the winter, warm earth tones for the fall and try pastels for the spring and summer. Add a gloss for a real special, sexy look!

Thought for a smile: choosing a nail color to match your lipstick!

And remember.....**Beauty is our Business!**

Junior Women's Club Holiday Basket Program A Success

The Agawam Junior Women's Club wishes to thank all those who supported their Holiday Basket Program and made it a success.

The Junior Women extend heartfelt thanks to all community members, private or commercial, for all their generous donations of food and financial assistance. Without the community's continued generosity, the program would not have been able to provide food for many families in need. "You helped make their Christmas a little brighter," said Sue Godfrey, Agawam Jr. Women's Club.

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Junior Membership.

Want to surprise your friends, family members, or co-workers when they turn a "certain age"? Then be sure to put a "Birthday Ad" in The Agawam Advertiser



SCOTT POPSUJ & KAREN M. DEAN

Springfield Italian Women's Club To Meet Monday, February 19th

The February 19th meeting of Springfield's Italian Women's Club will be held at Caffeine's Downtown, 254 Worthington St., Springfield.

Membership is open to all women of Italian heritage (either born Italian or married to an Italian). Dinner will be served promptly at 6:30 p.m.

The Italian Women's Club is looking for past schol-

arship recipients. If you are one or know of one, please call or write Mrs. A. Daniele, 10 Locust Rd., Eastham, MA 02642 or call 508-240-1983.

For information on the meeting, call 413-786-0078 or 413-733-8940.

For information on the Italian Women's Club, check the web site - 1@WebTV.NET.

A July 14, 2001 wedding is planned at Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, Longmeadow.

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Walter Thibault Retires From Beekman Place



WALTER THIBAULT was feted at a reception held at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street for his retirement from 23 years as manager of maintenance of Beekman Place Estates off Main Street. In left photo: Walter is pictured with his wife, Dorothy. In right photo: Walter receives some gifts from Bernie Michaels, president of the Beekman Board of Managers. Advertiser news photos by Kathy Shepard.

If you visit the Advertiser News' new office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Please park on the side of the building and use the back entrance. Thank you...



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- * **Tad Desautel** - High School teacher. Varsity football coach
- * **Mike Grassetti** - College senior. 5 years' experience
- * **Cynthia Grieve** - Jr. High teacher. Former High School coach
- * **Rick Joseph** - Coordinator of the Agawam School System Science Dept.
- * **Wayne Morse** - Coordinator of the Agawam School System Social Studies Dept. Former High School and College coach
- * **Anne Smith** - 21 year's experience. 2000 Driver Education "Teacher of the Year"
- * **Gerald Smith, Sr.** - Elected to High School Coaches "Hall of Fame"
- * **Gerald "Boo" Smith** - President of W. Mass. Area of the Professional Driver Education Assoc. Former High School baseball coach
- * **Nikki Suffritti** - Computer programmer. Ass't. Office Mgr.

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- * Sponsor for road exams.



Capt. Leonard House Trustees To Begin "Friends" Drive

February is "Friends" month at the Captain Charles Leonard House. Every year, the Board of Trustees invites all residents, social groups, and businesses to become a "Friend of the Leonard House" by giving a gift in any amount to help with the maintenance and upkeep of the house.

Since the campaign began in 1980, many have helped to preserve and maintain this attractive, historical, community treasure.

To keep the house in good condition, the Trustees undertake at least one major project a year. Last fall, the roof on the house was stripped to the original rafters, the plywood was replaced, and finally, the roof was covered with new shingles. This roof should last another 30 years. Extensive repair work was also done on the garage to replace and repaint decaying siding.

The Leonard House was built in 1805 and was admitted to the National Register of Historic Places on March 10, 1975. The building serves as a community meeting facility for many clubs and organizations, as well as for private functions. The property is owned by the Captain Charles Leonard House Incorporated and managed by a Board of Trustees, all of whom are local people who volunteer their time and services.

The Captain Charles Leonard House is available for luncheons, teas, dinners, meetings, weddings, showers, and other social gatherings.

Tax deductible donations may be sent to the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001. Donor's names will be added to the "Friends" record book, kept in the front hallway of the Leonard House.

For Valentine's Day... Church Of The Bible To Host Dance

Hey, dads! Have you ever thought about taking your daughter out on a date? Studies have shown that the relationship our daughters have with us is one of the biggest factors in their (wise) choice of a husband - and their success in that relationship, too.

So, treat your daughter (any age) to a night out at the Valentine's Dance, February 17th, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Agawam Jr. High, sponsored by the Agawam Church of the Bible. (Tickets are \$7 and may be purchased at 335 Walnut St. Ext., Suite 201, between 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., W-F.)

Going out to dinner first is always a plus, and don't be afraid to double-date with another dad.

She's only this age once. Live on the edge. Make a memory. You'll be glad you did!



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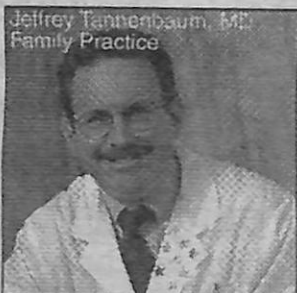
Matthew J. Kane, MD
Internal Medicine



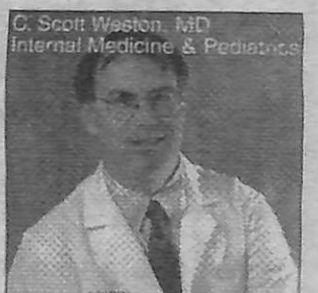
Kathleen Viaman, MD
Pediatrics



Sharon A. MacMillan, MD
OB/GYN



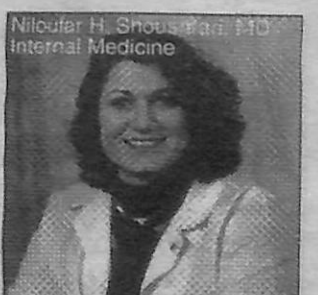
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Agawam Library To Sponsor Prog. By Dr. Steve Sobel

The Agawam Public Library is sponsoring a program by Dr. Steve Sobel entitled "If You Are Not Laughing, You Are Not Living - A Special Presentation To Uplift Your Spirit, Decrease Stress, And Humor Your Life!" on Thursday, February 15th, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam. (Snow date is Thursday, March 8th, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.)

Over the past two years, Dr. Sobel has presented enjoyable and informative programs on using humor to reduce stress to full houses at the Agawam Public Library. This year's program promises to be an evening of joy, and a relief from stress. Participants will come away with a renewed perspective, and will feel better about what lies ahead (on and off the job).

Dr. Sobel addresses thousands of people annually, and has spoken for organizations such as Better Homes and Gardens, CVS, Mass. Mutual, Milton Bradley Corporation, General Electric, and *The Hartford Courant*. Dr. Sobel is also the author of *The Good Times Handbook: Your Guide to Positive Living and Exciting Life*.

The program is free and open to the public. Please register in person or call the library at 789-1550.

Valley Cruisers Donate To McDonald House



MEMBERS OF THE VALLEY CRUISERS recently presented a check for \$1,000 to the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield, located at 34 Chapin Terrace (near Baystate Medical Center). Holding the check are Maria Ayala (left) and Allan Curran. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

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Church News



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(413) 789-1377 or
toll free (877) 643-9801

WHERE IS YOUR HEART?

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." These words of Jesus are recorded for us in the Gospel of Matthew, in a passage which has come to be known as the "Sermon On The Mount." Can it, does it, apply to our lives? Should we care?

The simple answer is yes. We know these words of Jesus apply to our lives today, because He said them to all people of all time, to anyone who would listen to Him. We should care about these words of Jesus, because in them we find a great promise from God.

When some people hear the word *righteousness*, they immediately reject it or resist it, because they think that *righteousness* is what religious people do, or perhaps more accurately, what they *don't* do. Each generation draws up its own list of forbidden pleasures, but it all boils down to the same thing: no fun, no pleasure.

That definition of *righteousness* couldn't be further from the truth. To be sure, there are some pleasures which must be forsaken if we are to be righteous, but those pleasures always end in pain, or worse, death. Eating and drinking to excess may be pleasurable at the time, but such bingeing always ends in regret. So too with inappropriate intimate relationships. They either lead to broken hearts, or hardened hearts. God says "no" to some things, not because He wants to unnecessarily limit our pleasure, but because He wants to limit our pain.

Righteousness, though, is not primarily about our behavior. *Righteousness* is about our relationship with God. Our relationship with God, broadly speaking, is either right, or *righteous*, or it is not right, or unrighteous. The decision about whether our relationship with God is righteous or unrighteous is up to us. Jesus promised us we would be blessed if we hunger and thirst for *righteousness*.

Hungering and thirsting are very subjective adjectives. Different people experience hunger and thirst in different ways, and also express it or act upon it differently. Driving home through Monday's blizzard, I realized I was hungry. I took a multi-mile detour to go

to Mac Donald's for lunch. Someone else might think it would be better to drive home directly in haste, while I went out of my way for food. Obviously, I placed a priority upon satisfying my hunger.

In the Bible, there's a story about a man and his friends who truly and deeply hungered and thirsted for righteousness with God. *One day some Pharisees and experts in the Law of Moses sat listening to Jesus teach. They had come from every village in Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. God had given Jesus the power to heal the sick, and some people came carrying a crippled man on a mat. They tried to take him inside the house and put him in front of Jesus. But because of the crowd, they could not get him to Jesus. So they went up on the roof, where they removed some tiles and let the mat down in the middle of the room. When Jesus saw how much faith they had, He said to the crippled man, "My friend, your sins are forgiven." The Pharisees and the experts began arguing, "Jesus must think He is God! Only God can forgive sins." Jesus knew what they were thinking, and He said, "Why are you thinking that? Is it easier for Me to tell this crippled man that his sins are forgiven or to tell him to get up and walk? But now you will see that the Son of Man has the right to forgive sins here on earth," Jesus then said to the man, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk home." At once the man stood up in front of everyone. He picked up his mat and went home, giving thanks to God. Everyone was amazed and praised God. What they saw surprised them, and they said, "We have seen a great miracle today!"*

Not only was the young man and his friends blessed, but the other part of Jesus' promise was realized as well. Jesus said, those who *"hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled."* Jesus' promise to each person who hungers and thirsts for God, and who seeks Him on His terms, is that he or she will actually find Him. God is not impossible to find. Indeed, He wants to be found by us. As well, the word *filled* comes from a Greek word which means "to supply food in abundance." Notice that only was the young man healed, he was also forgiven. God wants to give more of Himself to us than we realize. *Seek the Lord while He may be found.*

Where is your heart? *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."* It is true God wants to limit some of our pleasure to limit pain in our lives; but it is just as true that God wants to pour out His blessings upon us, without limitation.

News & Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Our sixth Sunday after Epiphany Service of Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.

Our speaker will be Pastor Rob Donaldson. The lector this week is Matt Granger, and the ushers are Charlie Horenstein and Sue Strycharz.

Children are invited to attend worship with adults, and they will leave at a designated time for Sunday School. Nursery care is provided for the very young.

The annual collection for blankets will be held on Sunday, February 18th. No actual blankets, please ... just donations! Each blanket costs \$5.

The need is greater this year because of the many catastrophes that have taken place.

Memories Needed - We are updating the church history and are in need of your memories. The church history has not been updated since 1962.

Please submit your memories to Shelley Rose or Bob Broga, and arrange a time when you can share your thoughts and suggestions in person.

Don't forget! Next Sunday, we will have our monthly collection for the Agawam/West Springfield Parish Cupboard. *Bags of groceries and articles of clean, usable clothing are needed. Please bring your items to the Parish Cupboard table in the sanctuary.*

If you are unable to donate a bag of groceries, envelopes will be available in the sanctuary on the Parish Cupboard table for cash donations.

On the calendar:

Thurs., Feb. 8th: 3:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:00 p.m., Church of Redemption.

Sun., Feb. 11th: Parish Cupboard; 12:00 noon, Church of Redemption.

Mon., Feb. 12th: 3:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Property Committee.

Tues., Feb. 13th: 3:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wed., Feb. 14th: Parish Cupboard Desserts; 3:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Choir.

Thurs., Feb. 15th: Newsletter Deadline; 3:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:00 p.m., Church of Redemption.

Fri., Feb. 16th: 5:00 p.m., Creative Memories; Confirmation to DC 16-19.

Catholic Women's Club To Meet Feb. 12th

The next meeting of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will be held on Monday, February 12th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center of St. John the Evangelist Church.

George Schmidt will speak on collecting old and new coins. Pauline Paquette and Jane Schmidt will provide hospitality.

New members are welcome.

If you visit the Advertiser News' new office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Please park on the side of the building and use the back entrance. Thank you...

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Rev. William C. Rousseau, Administrator.

St. Anthony of Padua Church, 108 Bridge St., Agawam; St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Church, 74 Bridge St., Agawam.

Telephone: St. Anthony, 786-3724/St. Theresa, 786-4451.

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon.-Wed.: 9:00 a.m., St. Theresa; **Thurs.:** 7:00 p.m., St. Theresa; **Fri. & Sat.:** 9:00 a.m., St. Anthony; **Sat.:** 4:30 p.m., St. Theresa; **Sun.:** 8:30 a.m., St. Anthony; 11:00 a.m., St. Theresa; **Holy Day Vigil:** 6:00 p.m., St. Anthony; **Holy Day:** 9:00 a.m./6:00 p.m., St. Theresa; **Rosary:** One half-hour before daily Mass.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fri., Feb. 9th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony's.

Sat., Feb. 10th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony's; 4:30 p.m., Mass at St. Theresa's Church. Mass offered in memory of Eugene Baj.

Sun., Feb. 11th: 8:30 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony's Church. Mass offered for the return to good health of Eva Nascembeni. Sanctuary Lamp at St. Anthony's is lighted this week for the return to good health of Alan Boucher.; Baptism of Gianna Maria Bonfitto; 9:15 a.m., CCD grades K-6 at St. Anthony's; 11:00 a.m., Mass at St. Theresa Church. Mass offered in memory of Albina Settembro. Sanctuary Lamp at St. Theresa's Church is lighted this week in memory of Mary Potter.

Mon., Feb. 12th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Theresa's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Theresa's; 6:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal at St. Anthony's; 8:30 and 11:00 choirs; 7:00 p.m., CCD meets in Parish Education Center; Adult Confirmation class meets in the Parish Hall.

Tues., Feb. 13th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Theresa's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Theresa's.

Wed., Feb. 14th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Theresa's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Theresa's.

Thurs., Feb. 15th: 6:30 p.m., Rosary at St. Theresa's; 7:00 p.m., Mass at St. Theresa's; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal for 4:30 choir at St. Theresa's.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

News From Faith Bible Church

Friday, February 9th is our Ladies' Night Out at the home of Tina Roy. Come out and fellowship with an evening of crafts, food, or whatever. For directions, call 569-0577.

On Saturday, February 10th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the church, the teens will be hosting a couple's Valentine Mystery Dinner as a fundraiser. The price is \$15 per couple, or \$7 per person. There will be entertainment provided and babysitting will be available. Please seek Mike or Danielle Smith to make your dinner reservation.

Ladies, don't forget the Women's Retreat coming March 9th, 10th, and 11th. The cost is \$90, which includes two nights and four meals. Names should have already been given, so please get your money to Sandy Garguillo as soon as possible.

Pastor Jasmin is teaching a class on "The Life of Christ" on Monday nights from 6:30-8:00 p.m. every week. Faith comes from hearing the Word of God. Come on out to learn more about our Savior's life. This class is held at the church each week.

Upcoming classes that will be announced soon will be cooking and a ballet class, also held at the church. We are still ironing out dates and times, but as soon as we have more information, we will publish it.

All are invited to come out to our classes and new faces are always a pleasure to see.

Friday, February 23rd, we will be holding our monthly pot luck dinner at 6:30 p.m.

This time is always fun and there is always plenty of food, fun, and fellowship. Join us each month.

For businesses/services, our classified ads cost just \$15 per week for 30 words or less; for all other classifieds, the cost is \$10. However, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills Center (above Remillard Insurance Agency), or mail them (along with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Ecumenical Healing Mission To Conclude At Ag. Congre.

The four-week Ecumenical Healing Mission (entitled "Christ Heals Today") at Agawam Congregational Church will conclude next Wednesday, February 14th. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m.

* The Ministry Of Intercession - RELEASING THE POWER

Channeling God's healing power to others - our private times of intercession, using our personal prayer list. The value of group prayer - and intercessory prayer teams meeting once a week, with Bible study and training. The help provided by the Order of St. Luke, with study materials, monthly O.S.L. chapter meetings, and annual healing conference. At the closing service, induction of those desiring associate membership in the O.S.L. Encouraging each one to discover his or her special gifts for the healing ministry in the parish and community.

The missioner/presenter is the Rev. John H. Parke, an Episcopal minister with over 50 years in the prayer and healing ministry. He has served churches as Rector and led healing missions as a member of the Order of St. Luke in almost every state in the U.S., Canada, and Australia.

The goal is to establish a local chapter of the Order of St. Luke, which will assist the churches in developing the healing ministry in their churches, provide training and resources for healing teams, and conduct regional healing missions in the various churches.

Everyone is invited to attend, and there are no fees. An offering will be received on February 14th to provide "seed" money for the newly-formed Springfield Chapter of the Order of St. Luke, along with the organization of a steering committee.

For further information, please contact the Agawam Congregational Church at 786-7111.

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Where Is Your Heart?

When his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne. —Daniel 5:20

When a Michigan man entered the hospital for tests, he never would have guessed what the doctors would find. A routine chest x-ray revealed that the man's heart was on the wrong side of his chest. Because of a rare reversed-organ condition, his heart was not where it should be.

In Daniel 5, we read of a different kind of heart problem—one that is all too common. This chapter reminds us that pride is a spiritual condition in which the heart is in the wrong place.

Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar, two kings of Babylon, were told that they had misplaced hearts of arrogance and pride (vv.20,22). As a result, God judged both of them. Nebuchadnezzar was made low until he recognized that the Most High God ruled over all (v.21), and Belshazzar was slain (v.30).

We need to examine ourselves often to see if our heart is in the right place. Do we depend on God daily? Do we acknowledge that all we have and are is by His mercy and grace? Do we live as His grateful servants, yielding to His will? Only as we recognize the importance of genuine humility and acknowledge our dependence on Him can we have a heart that's "in the right place."

Where is your heart? —MRDII

*Lord, pride, that fearful enemy,
So quickly takes control;
I plead, this day, Your pardoning grace
To cleanse my heart and soul. —DJD*

Concert Scheduled To Benefit The Parish Cupboard

A concert scheduled to benefit the Parish Cupboard will be held again this year by Candy Boucher, Executive Director.

Featuring her family members and friends, it will be held on Saturday, February 24th at St. Louis de France Church on Main Street, West Springfield.

The concert will create a Mardi Gras atmosphere on Main Street, where concertgoers will find the Church basement decorated in purple, gold, and green, the Dixieland music of XPRESS, featuring Matthew Boucher on tuba, and authentic, alcohol-free, Mardi Gras refreshments.

"At the Parish Cupboard," said Mrs. Boucher, "we feed people free meals every day because of the generous donations of so many individuals and business partners. With three children in college, I'm not able to make the financial contribution like some, so I give what I can - music."

No admission will be charged for these concerts, but donations will be accepted at the doors.

Bethany Church In Agawam Offers Clothing To The Needy

Bethany Assembly of God, located at Route 57 and Main Street, invites individuals and families who are in need of clothing to visit the church on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Carole and Ron DeMatteo, who manage the free service of community outreach, said the small but

busy facility also offers other donated items such as bedding, shoes, toys, and games.

The DeMatteos also said clean clothes of all styles and sizes may be brought to the church during regular hours.

For more information, call 789-2930.

Agawam United Methodist Church News

Wednesday: 7:30 p.m., Choir rehearsal. All singers are welcome!

Saturday: 9:00 a.m., AA

Sunday: 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship. The sermon topic is "Servants of God" based on the Gospel Lesson Luke 6:17-26. The anthem, presented by the Senior Choir under the direction of Mrs. Love Ashton, will be "O Ask Me Not" by Benton Price.

Copies of the Order of Worship are available in large print or braille. Please call the church office at 786-4174 or Rev. Walter Wotasek at 783-0140.

Visitors are always welcome. The sanctuary is handicapped-accessible.

All friends and members are invited to share in the Sewing Machines for Nicaragua outreach project during the month of February. Our Greater Springfield United Methodist Church has a sister church, San Rafael del Sur, which will use these machines to provide training and job opportunities for Nicaraguan women.

News & Events At St. John's Parish

MONTHLY BREAKFAST: At the monthly breakfast after the 9:30 Mass this Sunday, February 11th, we will formally welcome *all the new members* of our parish family who have joined us during this past year. The parish community is also invited to join us in the Parish Center immediately after this Mass. Your Parish Council will be the official host of this gathering.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL REGISTRATION: It is not too early to start thinking about September 2001 and enrolling children from preschool to grade eight. A call to the schools will get you the info you need.

SUNDAY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM: Our program for preschool-age children during the Sunday 9:30 Mass seems to be running fine. We hope this will help some parents attend Mass.

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF: If you missed the announcement of this week's special collection for El Salvador, drop it in next week in an envelope marked "earthquake."

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: This committee will meet on Friday night, February 9th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. Want to help? Why not come and meet the group and see how you could be factored in.

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An Innovative Way To Fund College Education - IRC Section 529

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- Professional money management. In addition, some plans limit the investment choice to one option, we can offer **five investment choices** of varying risk levels.
- Accelerated contributions are allowed, up to \$50,000, to allow for possible increased earnings than would otherwise be available.
- Deferral of tax on earnings is provided until withdrawal by the student. At that time, **funds are taxed at the donee's rate**, and not that of the donor who often is in a higher marginal tax bracket.
- Minimization of impairment in evaluating federal financial aid programs as the funds are treated as parental assets at 5.6% vs. 35% for assets of students.

Of course, we'd be pleased to also discuss your personal tax filing needs with you. Our services include electronic filing.

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News & Notes From Ag. Congregational

Sunday, February 11th, at 10:30 a.m. is BOY SCOUT SUNDAY with Rev. Earl speaking on "Willful Love - Keeping the Love We Promise." The Boy Scouts will be Ushering, Greeting, and Acolytes. The Senior Choir will be singing with organist Ellen Cogen. The Anthems are "Without Love It Will All Pass Away" and "The Gift of Love." During the morning worship, child care is available for infants and toddlers. Also, following the service, there is a fellowship hour in Bryan Hall. Pastor Ear and his wife, Barbara, are also members of the Order of St. Luke and will be available for prayer after the service.

Sunday - 9:00 a.m.: Adult Sunday Morning Series resumes at 9:00 a.m. The six-week series is titled "Curing Affluenza" by Tony Campolo. The co-teachers are Barbara Eisenbach and Gerry Desroches.

Sunday - 5:00 p.m.: Potluck Supper & Talent Show

Tuesday, 7:45 a.m.: Men's Prayer. (Men are invited to join the Men's Prayer Time, which meets at 7:45 a.m. each Tuesday morning. We read from the devotional guide "Upper Room" for meditation and discussion, with time for coffee and fellowship.

This is a great time for men to come together and be strengthened).

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.: Final Ecumenial Healing Mission

Members of the community are invited to participate in all the church events. For further information, the church office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every weekday; call 786-7111.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice prior to your event. Thank you.

Bethany Assembly To Sponsor "Marriage Can Be Fun"

Bethany Assembly, 580 Main St., Agawam will sponsor "Marriage Can Be Fun. Making A Good Marriage Even Better" on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 16th and 17th.

For those getting married, those that are married, and those that have been married, the conference subjects will include "The six vulnerabilities of marriage," "How important is compatibility?" and "Is this really the person I married?"

The Friday schedule will include coffee and cookies from 6:30-7:30 and Session One from 7:00-9:00 p.m. On Saturday, a continental breakfast will be offered from 8:30-9:00 p.m., conference from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and luncheon at 12:30.

Someone once said, "Love is blind, but marriage is an eye-opener."

The minister and instructor for the conference will be Dr. H.S. Ryan.

For more information or to register, call 789-2930.

For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

Good Buys At First Baptist Trading Post

The Trading Post at First Baptist Church, corner of Main & Elm Sts., Agawam, has many great sales each Wednesday during its normal hours of operation, 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Good as new items will be available, including beautiful baby buys, children's clothing (up to size 14), men's shirts, suits, sweaters, jackets, sport coats, slacks, belts, and ties.

Also available are women's blouses, sweaters, vests, skirts, dresses, coats, jackets, sweatshirts, and turtlenecks (many colors). Sizes are available for teens, petites, misses, and for the stylish stouts.

Other items include knick-knacks, drapes, curtains, blankets, stuffed toys, games, assorted dishes, household items, puzzles, paperbacks, and records.

The Trading Post is a 50-50 consignment shop. Stock is in style and in very good shape. Come in and browse around. You'll be glad you did!



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Spotlight on Business



Domestic Law Issues...

From The Law Offices Of
Patricia M. Hebert, P.C.
360 Springfield Street
Agawam
(413) 786-2211

Article 13...

Q: My husband pays me \$300.00 per week as alimony. My friend also receives alimony from her husband, but her divorce judgment also states that she is the beneficiary of a \$100,000.00 life insurance policy on her husband's life in the event of his death and my divorce judgment doesn't have any life insurance provision. My friend tells me that her attorney told her the insurance provision was necessary to secure her payment of alimony after his death. Is that true?

A: M.G.L. Chapter 208, Section 36 - Security for payment of alimony or support; enforcement of judgments or orders, states, "When alimony or support is adjudged for the spouse or children, the court may require sufficient security for its payment according to the judgment."

In addition, M.G.L. Chapter 208, Section 36A - Continuing jurisdiction to enforce alimony, support and maintenance or child support; order for trustee process, states that, "Any remedy provided pursuant to this section shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedy available for the enforcement of support obligations."

The most common security used to ensure the week to week payment of alimony is an automatic attachment of the payor spouse's wages. In your situation, this means that your \$300.00 weekly alimony check would be paid directly by your ex-husband's employer, instead of your ex-husband.

Another security method would be to establish a plan of annuity. The maintenance of a life insurance policy by a payor spouse, although not mandatory by statute, is an effective mechanism of guaranteeing the payment of a lump sum of money after the payor spouse dies. This payment of life insurance proceeds upon cessation of alimony due to death of the payor spouse, would be especially important if the recipient of alimony has limited work skills, a medical condition limiting ability to work, or an older person.

Your divorce attorney should discuss with you the many advantages of purchasing and maintaining a life insurance policy prior to your signing a divorce agreement.

Pam Savioli

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Painting the walls and ceiling is the easiest and least expensive way to update and brighten a bathroom. A neutral color such as white, off-white, beige, or light gray will appeal to most buyers. Generally, gloss or semi-gloss are more soil-, steam-, and water-resistant and can better withstand repeated scrubbing.

Brighten the room with light, airy window treatments. If natural sunlight is unavailable, use artificial lighting to lighten the room. Use the highest-wattage lightbulbs your fixtures will allow. And adding well-placed mirrors will both brighten and expand a small bathroom.

PAM SAVIOLI is a full-time professional Realtor with over 13 years of experience. Call Pam at 413-748-7565 with any real estate questions or check her web site at <http://pamsavioli.realtor.com>.

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February is Children's Dental Health Month

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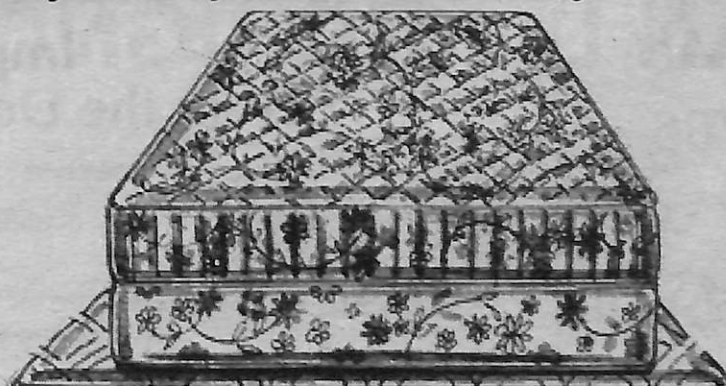
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Five Questions To Ask Yourself Before Changing Jobs

Remember the days when most people spent their working years with one company - getting promotions, building seniority, and working toward retirement with a dependable pension? For much of today's workforce, those days are ancient history. Now it seems like the most common way to improve career prospects is to move from company to company as opportunities present themselves.

If headhunters are calling and today's tight labor market is presenting new job options, ask yourself these five questions as you ponder your decision about whether it's time to move on:

1. What kind of benefits do I need? The answer will help you eliminate the possibility of working for companies that don't offer packages that meet your family's needs. While larger companies tend to have more comprehensive employee benefits than smaller ones, you may have more opportunity to negotiate perks in a small-company environment.

In addition to retirement savings plans offered by many companies, some of the more innovative benefit packages now include flexible spending accounts. These plans let you put pre-tax dollars into accounts to be used for medical, dependent care and legal expenses.

2. What do I want in a position? Do you relish the thought of a plush corner office or would the idea of telecommuting from a home office be more appealing to you? Many workers are trading the traditional attractions of a job upgrade - like a higher salary and better benefits - for flexibility and convenience.

As you make your decision, consider your lifestyle and your family responsibilities, then think about how well your current position meets your priorities. If your priorities have changed and your work situation doesn't offer what you need, it may pay to discuss this situation with your boss prior to jumping ship. Many employers are open to negotiating work arrangements rather than losing valued employees.

3. What do I value in a company? As you interview, consider what is really important to you in a

potential employer. Observe carefully what you feel and experience in the new work environment. See how employees interact and picture yourself in the setting. You can usually get a feel for the company's culture in just a few brief visits. Talk to employees in the company if you have a chance.

If you value community involvement, inquire about the company's philanthropic efforts and its reputation in the community. You may also be able to find additional information about a potential employer by visiting its web site or reading its current annual report (for publicly held organizations). This data-gathering process can help you determine if the firm's values match your own.

4. Do I want to work for a small or a large company? As mentioned above, large and small companies may offer vastly different benefit programs. But there are other factors to consider in the large vs small debate.

Those people who dislike bureaucracy and value the independent decision-making process may thrive in a small company environment. On the other hand, many job seekers look to the behemoths for the growth opportunities they often afford.

Many people with entrepreneurial spirits choose to forego the security and stability of a big company for a chance to fulfill their dream. Yet others find the uncertainty of start-ups too unsettling.

5. What can I do with my employer-sponsored retirement plan if I change jobs? When you leave a company, you have several options for your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored plan. You may be able to leave your savings in your existing plan or perhaps move the assets to your new employer's plan, roll dollars into a traditional IRA or take a cash distribution from the plan.

Remember that if you take the assets from your plan, the distribution may be subject to federal, state, and possibly local taxes (and a 10% IRS early withdrawal penalty may apply if you are under age 55). You should also seek advice regarding your company's pension plan, stock options, and similar benefits that may require vesting periods, or that you can take with you as individual plans when you leave, such as life insurance and long-term care insurance policies.

No one would argue that changing jobs is a big decision - and one you shouldn't make alone. As you weigh your career options, a knowledgeable financial advisor can be a valuable resource in helping you determine how your next move fits with your overall financial scenario.

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Legal Memo

by
Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Medical Malpractice

Delay in Diagnosing Breast Cancer

The plaintiff was 29 and in good health when she visited her primary care doctor with concerns about a lump in her left breast. The plaintiff reported a hard, tender, palpable lump in the left side of her breast that she had only recently detected. The primary care doctor ordered a mammogram and indicated that the plaintiff would probably have a surgical consultation after the mammogram.

The mammogram report indicated a nodular density less than one centimeter in size in the upper outer portion of the left breast. A follow-up ultrasound was recommended by the radiologist. The plaintiff claimed the mammogram films were misinterpreted by the radiologist, who failed to note an ill-defined six-millimeter spiculated mass, with at least four punctate microcalcifications and a suggestion of cloud-like calcifications inside the mass. These findings were suspicious for cancer and required follow-up biopsy.

A month after the initial mammogram, the plaintiff was seen by a surgeon who palpated a distinct tender nodule in the left breast located approximately in the 1 to 2 o'clock position and recommended an ultrasound of the breast. The surgeon, who had been referred by the primary care doctor, did not perform the breast biopsies. The surgeon reportedly asked the plaintiff to notify the surgeon of the results of the ultrasound, aspiration, or biopsy. No follow-up appointment was scheduled by the surgeon.

A couple of weeks later, the plaintiff underwent ultrasound testing of the left breast. The interpreting radiologist reported the same mass in the same area of the left breast as had been identified on mammogram, but only recommended a repeat mammogram in four to six months. The plaintiff claimed that, since the radiologist did not find a mass to be cystic, the standard of care required that a biopsy be recommended to rule out breast cancer.

No copy of the ultrasound was found in the surgeon's records, suggesting that neither the primary care doctor nor the radiologist ever sent the results to the surgeon. There was no evidence that the surgeon ever inquired as to the results. Indeed, the surgeon concluded that the plaintiff had chosen to continue

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SEE FERRIGNO - Page 24

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FERRIGNO - from Page 23

her care elsewhere. None of the doctors caring for the plaintiff reportedly took any steps to ensure that a biopsy was performed.

The plaintiff returned to her primary care doctor over the next two months, for pain and swelling in the area of her left axillary (armpit). Despite the findings of the ultrasound, in conjunction with the plaintiff's presentation of pain, the primary care doctor reportedly failed to recommend or inform the plaintiff of the need for biopsy of the mass.

Four months later, the plaintiff had another mammogram that was reported as showing no appreciable change from the mammogram done before. The plaintiff claimed the films showed a 2-centimeter lesion with calcifications and spiculations.

The plaintiff's breast cancer was diagnosed two months later by way of a fine needle aspiration of a palpable axillary node as well as a biopsy of the breast mass. The plaintiff was subsequently treated with aggressive chemotherapy and underwent a modified radical mastectomy. The plaintiff continued with radiation therapy in three-month intervals over the next year-and-a-half. Today, the plaintiff is in her 30's. The cancer has metastasized to her lungs and brain and she is expected to die prematurely from her cancer.

The plaintiff claimed that the defendants each thought another medical care provider was handling the breast mass tissue and thus, allowed the plaintiff to "slip through the cracks." The plaintiff also claimed that the defendants failed to appreciate the possibility of breast cancer given the plaintiff's young age and they failed to respond promptly to worrisome findings.

The defendants contended that all of the films had been properly interpreted and that the surgeon and primary care doctor had acted appropriately in managing the plaintiff's breast mass. The defendants further contended that even if the cancer had been detected and treated at an earlier stage, it would not have affected the outcome. Finally, the defense claimed that a breast augmentation procedure done while the plaintiff was a teenager created scar tissue that, coupled with the breast implant, made it difficult to visualize the mass and its features and to perform a biopsy.

Each side was prepared to call numerous expert witnesses on various medical specialties.

The case was settled in advance of trial for \$1.5 million.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts 01030. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

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with us - AAN!!!*



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**Finding The Right Real
Estate Agent (Part 1 Of 2)**

Before beginning the home buying process, you must remember that as a potential home buyer, you are the one in charge ... not the real estate agent ... not the lender ... or the lawyer.

More often than not, too many home buyers feel trapped due to a lack of knowledge of the process and rely on the judgement of others without knowing all of the facts and processes involved in home buying. This is especially true when selecting a real estate agent that will walk you through one of the most important transactions of your life.

Savvy customers know that they have a right to interview agents to see how they will find and negotiate the sale of a home for them. With the variety of services that agents offer and the varying levels of education that agents can go through, the selection of agents can be immeasurable.

As a buyer, it is important to first seek out the services of an Exclusive Buyer's Agent. This type of agent varies from other agents in the sense that they represent you in the real estate process, not the seller. Oftentimes, a buyer will call the agent listed on a "For Sale" sign outside a property, only to find out that

"Dress For Success" Program Supported By Local Businesses

Time/Design of Agawam, Dress for Success, and United Co-op Bank recently joined forces, yet again, to support women involved in the Dress for Success program. Dress for Success is a non-profit organization that helps low-income women make tailored transitions into the workforce. Dress for Success offers training and counseling, as well as distribution of professional apparel.

Time/Design, a women-run company, offered time management training in a round-table session, to women who complete the Dress for Success program and are now employed. The women were given com-

when it comes time to negotiating your interests, that agent represents the seller.

Find out whom the agent represents. Even though most states require the agent to disclose this fact to the buyer, watch for agents that practice a form of representation call "dual agency." Dual agency is when the real estate agent does not represent the buyer or seller exclusively and forces the agent to be neutral throughout the negotiating process.

Having someone looking out for your interests and offering their expert opinion about price and the condition of a home is invaluable when you consider you are spending anywhere from \$100,000 to \$200,000 and up.

(To be continued next week...)

Need Real Estate Information Quickly?

Do you want to know what mortgage programs are best for you? Do you want to know what your home is worth? Do you have family and friends who may be interested in buying/selling a home? Do you need assistance in relocating? Would you like information on the prices of homes that have sold in your neighborhood? Simply e-mail your request or call me today!

Raymond Rose is a resident of Agawam, and President/Founder of Rose Real Estate Group, a professional real estate and financial services firm serving home buyers throughout the area. Comments and questions can be directed to him at 846-0961 or via his e-mail at RaymondRose@aol.com.

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plimentary, award-winning Time/Design Management Systems in conjunction with a one-hour introduction to the time and project management training.

The objective of the round-table training was to offer attendees logical methods to organize their commitments, communication, and information, both professional and personal.

The training was held on Monday, January 22nd, at the United Co-op office on Elm Street in West Springfield.

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The name of the Doctor (duh!)



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For Your Health

Traditionally The Harshest Month...

Keep Winter Safety In Mind During February

(Part 1 Of 3)

February is traditionally the worst month for winter-time weather, and a good time to review some winter safety rules with your children.

While winter activities provide children with amusement during the colder months, they can also be life-threatening, notes the Western Mass. SAFE KIDS Coalition headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital.

Our Emergency Department sees winter drownings and serious sledding accidents each winter, and parents and caregivers need to keep a watchful eye on winter play; limit outdoor playtime when temperatures are frigid; and be sure their children dress appropriately for the weather.

The Western Massachusetts SAFE KIDS Coalition recommends the following suggestions to help keep your children safe for the remainder of this winter:

WINTER DROWNING

Most parents associate drowning with summer months, but the increased use of hot tubs and whirlpools (as well as the danger of hidden bodies of water or weak ice) makes winter drownings a risk as well.

* **Allow children to skate only on ponds or lakes that have been approved for skating.**

* **Supervise children in or near a pool, hot tub, or any body of water.**

* **Beware of children overheating in hot tubs and whirlpools.**

* **Make sure pools and spas are secure.** Install four-sided isolation fencing that is at least five feet high. The fence should have a self-closing and self-latching gate. Do not use the exterior of the house as one side of the fence.

FROSTBITE

* **Dress children warmly.** Several thin layers will help keep children dry as well as warm. Clothing should consist of thermal longjohns, turtlenecks, one or two shirts, pants, sweater, coat, warm socks, boots, gloves or mittens, and a hat.

* **Set reasonable time limits on outdoor play.** Call children in periodically to warm up with drinks such as hot chocolate.

* **When possible, avoid taking infants outdoors when it is colder than 40 degree F.** Infants lose body heat quickly.

If a child complains of numbness or pain in the fingers, toes, nose, cheeks, or ears while playing in the snow, or if the skin is blistered, hard to the touch, or glossy, be alerted to the possibility of frostbite and take the following steps:

* **Take the child indoors or call a doctor.** Tell the child to wiggle the affected body part(s) to increase blood supply to that area. Warm the frozen part(s) against the body by holding fingers to the chest, for example.

* **Immerse frozen part(s) in warm, not hot, water.** Frozen tissue is fragile and can be damaged easily. Avoid warming with high heat from radiators, fireplaces, or stoves, and avoid rubbing or breaking blisters.

(To be continued next week...)

For all the hometown
news, you turn our
pages each and
every week ... AAN!!!

At Baystate Medical Center...

"I Can Cope" Cancer Series Begins Feb. 19th

Baystate Medical Center, in conjunction with the American Cancer Society, will once again offer a free series of educational classes entitled "I Can Cope," designed for people facing cancer. The educational program will begin February 19th and continue through March 26th.

"I Can Cope" is an American Cancer Society program geared for newly-diagnosed cancer patients who need assistance sorting through the many questions and fears that accompany the devastating news of finding out they have cancer, noted Erin E. McDonald, regional executive for communications, New England Division, American Cancer Society.

"Living with cancer can be one of the hardest challenges anyone faces. 'I Can Cope' will help participants meet this challenge by clarifying cancer facts and myths," said the Rev. Nancy Dann, an interfaith oncology chaplain at Baystate Medical Center. "The program can help participants understand feelings such as fear, anxiety, and sadness that accompany a serious illness," Dann added.

Through a series of classes, doctors, nurses, social workers, and other health care professionals and community representatives will offer straightforward information and answers to cancer-related questions about human anatomy; diagnosis and treatment; side effects; emotions and self-esteem; sexuality; communications; and community resources.

Classes will meet from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1A and 1B in the Chestnut Conference Center at Baystate Medical Center. Refreshments will be served at 5:30 p.m.

Registration is required for the free series by calling The Professionals at 794-2255, or outside the Springfield calling area at 1-800-377-HEALTH. For more information, call Chaplain Nancy Dunn at 794-0290 or Marlene Quinlan, LICSW, at 794-2510.

For the latest cancer information, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit the American Cancer Society website at www.cancer.org.

Workshop On Menopause To Begin Feb. 26th

"Menopause 2001," a five-week wellness workshop for perimenopausal and menopausal women, will be offered through Baystate Ob/Gyn Group, Inc. by Denise Vincent, C.N.M. Denise will focus on maintaining health and wellness through the perimenopausal years and beyond, as well as conventional and complementary therapies.

Topics will include the menopausal transition; breast, bone, and heart health; use of phytoestrogens, herbs, and supplements; hormone replacement therapy; and stress management.

The workshop will begin on Monday, February 26th, and will continue for five weekly sessions (7:00 to 8:30 p.m.) at the South Hadley Raymond Medical Center (470 Granby Road). You may sign up for individual sessions or the entire seminar. The cost is \$25 for each single session, or \$100 for all five sessions.

Registration is required and space is limited. For additional information or to register for the workshop, please contact the receptionist in our South Hadley office at (413) 794-4916.

For more information, you can also visit our website at www.bogg.com.

Lions Club Seeking Eyeglasses

The Agawam Lions Club helps people to see better. Members of this service-oriented club are asking you to save your old eyeglasses.

Containers for these used eyeglasses are available at various locations:

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West Springfield - Big Y on Memorial Avenue.

Westfield - A & P, Waldbaum's, Vision Center (Main Street), United Co-Op Bank (Elm Street), Ken's Eyewear (41 Court Street), James Scheip (64 Court Street), and Big Y (East Silver Street).

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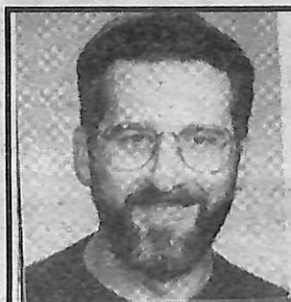
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"Life Through Stories"

by Dan Pender
Marriage &
Family Therapist
P.O. Box 449
Agawam, MA 01001
(413) 789-4460

These past four weeks I have been sharing my story about the life of my second child. This is a story I began writing several years ago. I hope to share our story, in chapter form, over the next several weeks. Last week, in the second part of Chapter 2, I described the urgency of irregularities discovered in our babies' ability to breathe and with her tiny heart. The chapter ended with news that she would probably be transferred to another hospital.

Chapter 3 (part one)

THE TRANSFER

The transfer team was dispatched from Baystate Medical Center with some urgency. I was informed when they arrived. I went out to the glass wall looking in on their interaction with our baby wondering what would be their news. It came swiftly! They decided to transfer our little girl immediately. To our surprise, the transfer was not going to be to Baystate, but rather south, some 30 miles, to Hartford Hospital, where they have a Pediatric Cardiology department. It was her heart!

Joanne, the nursery nurse, was the first to recognize that our little girl was in trouble when she began to turn blue. There was certainly a respiratory problem and maybe more. The team continued to apply pure oxygen to temporarily relieve the pressure. They further accessed that the opening in her heart (the ductus foramen ovale) that naturally closes after the first three or so hours after birth needed to remain open. Medication temporarily kept it open to stabilize circulation.

We literally only had minutes to digest the news, say good-bye and give her a name. Mellon said, "Before she leaves we need to give her a name". The pressure to name her grew larger than we had ever imagined. Somehow, the process and significance of naming our baby moved beyond just giving her a cut snappy name that we were pondering all along, like, Molly. Certainly, any attachment to the nursery staff's

pet name 'Penelope' grew thin. Yet, what were we to name her? What was her name to be?

Even though we had told Kevin that we'd see him in the morning and give her name then, we knew what we had to do. We knew this was not Kevin's decision, but we were concerned for him. The name that almost immediately emerged was Julia. This was a name on our short list and was clearly not a favorite of Kevin's. We each simultaneously nodded with agreement, joined by the knowledge of our unspoken common meaning attached to this selection. The name, Julia, was particularly popular due to the fame of actress Julia Roberts, but both Mellon and I embraced the name, Julia, because our precious little one would carry the strength of my maternal Grandmother's name, Julia Donahue.

Among her twenty or so grandchildren, there exists a Julia Donahue the II, but our Julia was Julia Pender, "Nannies" third great-grandchild and first to be named after her on the Pender side of the family. This was an honored position!

The most unlikely combination of names then emerged. "Let's give her a middle name", I thought. "How about Gene, spelled with a G, after my father, Eugene?" And so it was, Julia Gene Pender. The very first mention of her name received the support of our tears as we knew this was her name.

Her name actually bridged the long standing cavern between my Mom's side and Dad's side of the family. I don't think we realized this or its significance to the extended families at the time, but our Julia Gene did in fact connect both families in a new way. Apparently, I had bridged something not meant to be mixed, namely; mixing the strength of the matriarch — Julia, with the 'problem', the 'drunk', the 'useless one' — Eugene..

Conflict had always existed between these two individuals and between these two family systems. Now there appeared a little girl — Julia Gene — in the middle, like me, yet different? I don't know! We'll see!

Your feedback is welcome. Your real life stories are too! Please e-mail or write me with what you would be willing to share. I will maintain your anonymity, unless you indicate otherwise. Thank you.

Dan Pender, MA, MFT is in private practice as a Marriage & Family Therapist. He is a Clinical member of the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapy and can be reached by e-mail at dpmft449@aol.com or PO Box 449, Agawam, MA 01001, (413)789-4460.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -



Chiropractic Care

by Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Bed Rest & Back Pain

For many years, the medical profession has emphasized bed rest for low back pain. Even to this day, occasionally a patient will come in after seeing their primary care doctor who advised several days of bed rest.

One study found that protracted rest leads to a catabolic state and general malaise. There is demineralization of the bone (meaning the bone weakens) and a 3% loss of muscle strength per day.

Some other effects are not only muscle weakness, but muscle atrophy or wasting - 1.0% to 1.5% of muscle mass lost per day. Cardiopulmonary deconditioning (15% loss of aerobic capacity in 10 days), bone mineral loss, risk of thromboembolism, as well as social side effects and economic loss. All this leads to what is referred to as deconditioning syndrome. The body becomes deconditioned-decreased strength, decreased endurance, decreased flexibility, decreased cardiovascular fitness, and decreased awareness of position sense and kinesthesia.

Rest, particularly prolonged bed rest, may be the most harmful treatment ever devised. Prolonged bed rest is the most effective method known for producing a severe disuse syndrome.

A chiropractor works with the patient to restore motion by mobilizing and motioning the spine, to strengthen and stretch the muscles by providing strengthening and stretching exercises, and to increase proprioception by directly affecting the nervous system. Chiropractic care not only helps with pain relief, but also, and more importantly, restores motion and function.

It's important to be able to return to work or recreational activities with freedom of motion and freedom from pain.

Medication gives pain relief, but it does restore proper motion and healing of the spine. That's why patients tend to re-injure themselves when they take medication. They don't feel the pain, then return to work. They further injure the tissue in the region because they can't feel the pain. The prescription of

SEE TAMI NELSON - Page 27

Yoga To Restart At Ag. Sr. Center

The Agawam Senior Center will again offer Yoga classes starting March 5th and running through May 21st.

The classes will be held every Monday (except April 16th) at 10:30 a.m. (Room 5). Fee is \$2 per class. Space is limited. Please call 786-0400, ext. 242 to sign-up.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

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413-789-4511

The importance of naming.

Read more about this in today's column.

from

Dan Pender

Marriage & Family Therapist

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Your Back And Your Health

by
**Dr. Joseph S.
Schlaffer**
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

The Strain Of Snow Removal...

Many patients have called our office recently with back complaints related to the series of snowstorms and the strain of snow removal.

The **Schlaffer Chiropractic Office** advises you to exercise caution! Shoveling snow is one of the toughest activities that you can do to your low back. It is certainly one activity that will further injure your already weak low back.

If you are not in very good physical condition, I would advise you to give up shoveling altogether. Find

Alzheimer's Support Group Available At The Atrium

The Atrium, located at 153 Cardinal Drive, Agawam, offers free monthly support groups for individuals caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease or a similar memory disorder.

On the first Tuesday of every month, The Atrium is the site for a support group meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. A light supper is included.

On the third Wednesday of every month, an afternoon support group is held at the Chicopee Senior Center, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

If you would like further information, please contact Judy Pothul at The Atrium, 821-9911.

TAMI NELSON - from Page 26

medication stops, they have decreased function, which leads to injury, and the patient is in worse pain.

If you suffer with back pain, for effective pain relief, to restore function and movement, to prevent loss of strength, endurance and flexibility, seek chiropractic care!

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She can be reached at 786-4820.

Lordy, Lordy! Look Who's 40! Happy Birthday



Love,
Micheal, Ashley and Allyson

a neighborhood kid who is ambitious enough to help you. Have your driveway plowed by a professional. If that is not possible and you insist on shoveling your own driveway, then condition your back for several months ahead of the snow season.

Each year, we hear about the number of heart attacks and strokes that occur as the result of overexertion. The tragedy of the fatal or near-fatal result of an apparently healthy person from snow shoveling is rather common. Other hazards involved are even more common.

The same snow which causes heart stress also causes dangerous stress to the discs in the spine of the shoveler. When you consider that a shovel of snow weighs from five to seven pounds, you realize the tremendous accumulative weight one has to lift to clear an area. The average driveway or walk will hold hundreds of pounds of snow.

I recommend the following rules to guard against the snow-shoveler syndrome:

1. Dress warmly, but don't bundle up so as to make

it difficult and awkward for you to move naturally.

2. Use a lightweight pusher-type shovel. Spray it with Teflon so snow will not cling to it.
3. Try not to lift the snow if possible. Push it into a pile, thereby relieving spinal compression.
4. Avoid sudden twists of the torso. Move the entire body.
5. Keep your back straight when you lift. Use your legs rather than your back.
6. Work slowly.
7. If you feel tired or short of breath, stop and take a rest. Stand up straight and breathe deeply.
8. If you feel a twinge of back pain, stop completely and go inside the house, sit down, and rest.

If pain persists, see a doctor of chiropractic immediately. With snow, it's wiser to use the head instead of the back.

My office helps patients with spine-related problems. Those who injure their backs should seek treatment; call 789-1369 or 789-1073 for help.

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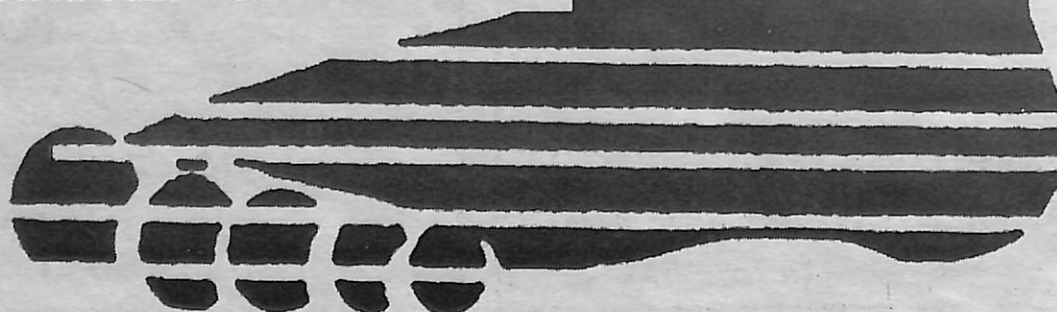
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Arts

Students Invited To Join Upcoming Memory Ln. Concert

The "Memory Lane Chorus" of the Agawam Senior Center would like to make their upcoming program, "The Songs of Hollywood," an intergenerational event by inviting students from the Agawam High School to join the production, which will be held in the High School auditorium on Friday evening, March 23rd.

Any students who would like to take part in the concert and sing-along are invited to attend any of the regular Tuesday afternoon rehearsals of the chorus at the Senior Center and a number of special sessions will be held during February and March on Wednesday afternoons at the High School music rooms.

The program will feature around 30 of the most famous songs that were written for movies, many of them the Academy Award-winning songs for various years, and quite a few that were on the "Hit Parade" for many weeks following their performance in a movie.

Informative sessions have been held for music and some English classes, but participation is not limited to students who have received the more detailed information.

Any students who have the time to attend a few of the rehearsals either at the Senior Center or the High School are most welcome to become a part of the group for this performance.

"The Food Dude"

by John Walters
WMAS 1450 AM



"Mulling" Over Mulled Wine...

Did you know you can send in recipes to me at P.O. Box 741, Agawam, MA 01001?

Have you ever had mulled wine or cider? It's cold out. You have invited friends over to sit by the fire, and you're looking for something different to entertain them. A nice rich, red, unsparking wine is the way to start.

In a sauce pan, start to warm the wine. Add some cinnamon, lots of nutmeg, sugar, and some zest of orange. Do not bring the wine to the point of simmering; just warm 'til the sugar has been dissolved and the temp has been raised a bit. Decorate with a cinnamon stick and some orange slices.

Cider and mead can be served the same way. What to serve with your wine? Not really a problem. Try some of my hot artichoke and crab dip. Take one small jar of marinated artichokes, one package of cream cheese, one can of lump crab meat (remove any cartilage), 1/2 tsp of Worcestershire sauce, salt and pepper to taste, and enough milk to soften. This can be heated in a microwave oven. If you enjoy things a little spicy, add some "red hot" sauce. When heated, it should have the desired consistency for dipping. Serve with your choice of dipping crackers. The mulled wine will go great with this.

Try serving chili queso with your corn chips or french fries. All queso is, is cheese; Mexican cheese, nacho cheese, whatever you want to call it. This is easy. It's not really a gourmet cheese dip, just a cheese dip that's cheap and tasty. Buy a small can of no-bean chili such as Hormel mix, along with a small package of Velveeta, and nuke it 'til soft. Start dipping; it's that easy!

How about some high-cholesterol potatoes? Boil your potatoes, then let cool and peel. Dice them up. Now, in a buttered baking pan, spread those taters out. Place a nice layer of mayonaise over the top (not too thick but enough to know it's there). Now, top off

SEE FOOD DUDE - Page 32



JUDY GARLAND'S "Meet Me in St. Louis" will be some of the festured songs in the upcoming Memory Lane Chorus. The chorus is directed by Darcy Davis.



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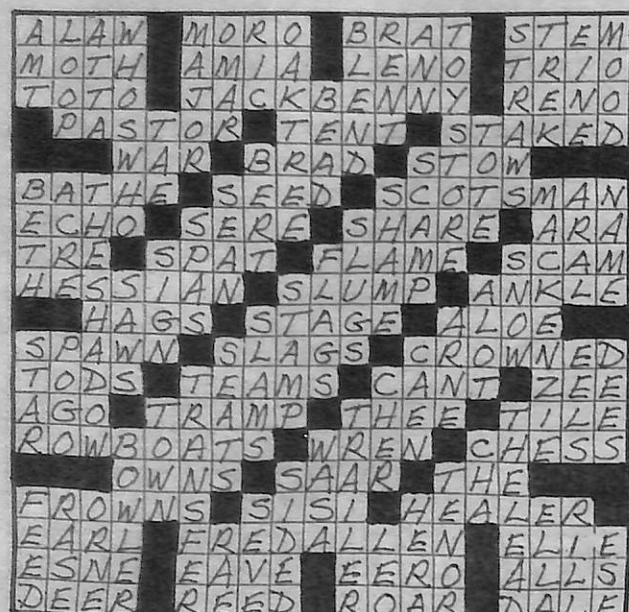
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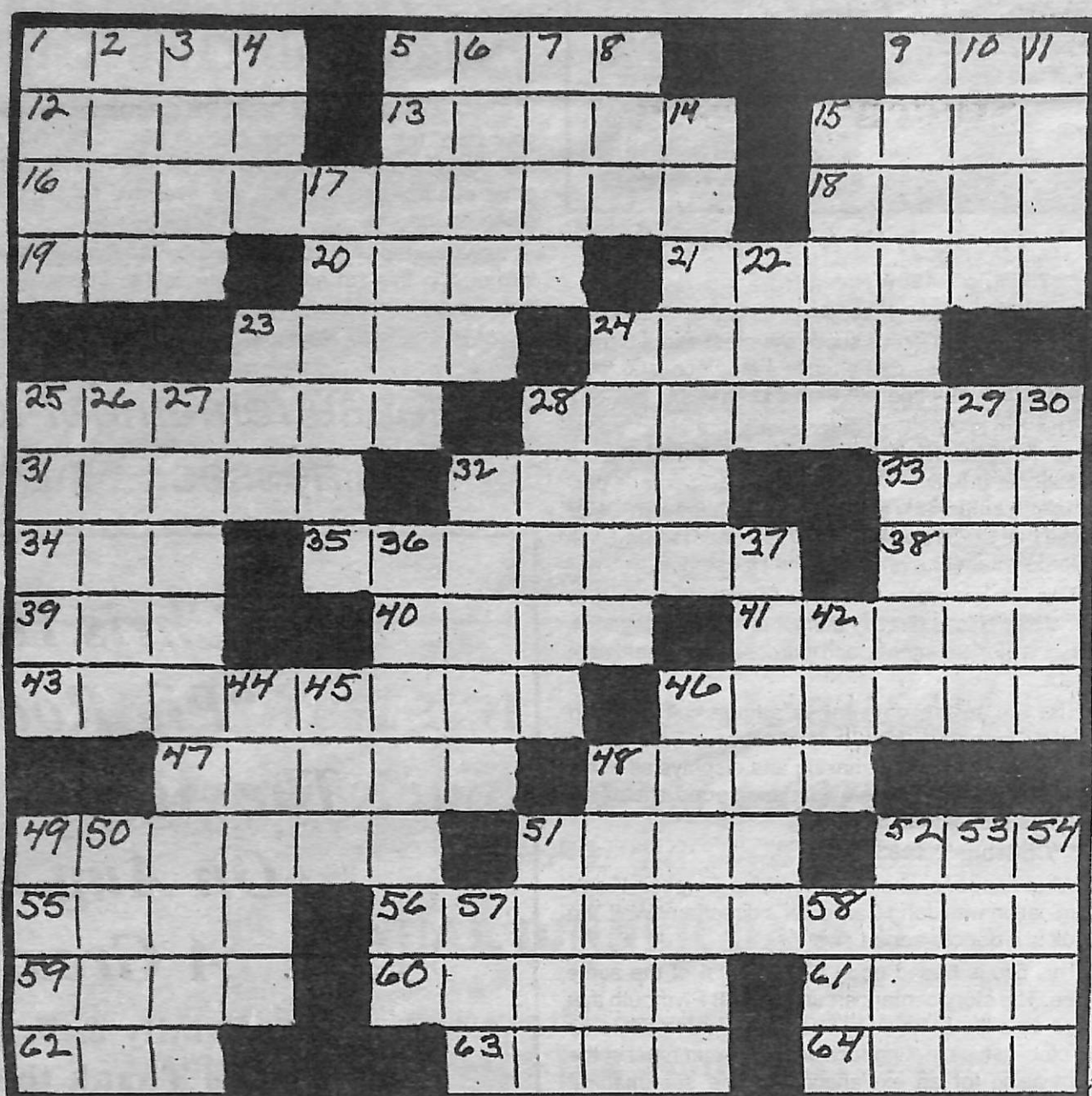
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Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



On Friday, Feb. 23rd...

Sounds Of Music Singers To Perform At Springfield Turnverein

The Springfield Turnverein cordially invites all people to join us for another enjoyable evening.

Richie and Kathy Mitnick will present the Sounds of Music Singers at the Springfield Turnverein, located at 176 Garden St. in Feeding Hills, on Friday evening, February 23rd at 7:30 p.m. Pre-concert dining will be available from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Richie Mitnick has been performing throughout the area since moving here from New York City in 1979. He is known for his warm, rich stylings of the great standards as well as the beautiful show tunes that he loves so much. Kathy Mitnick is a well-respected musician and has performed at restaurants and country clubs throughout Western Massachusetts.

The Sounds of Music Singers are well-known in

this community and their love for music keeps them together. Please join us and extend a warm welcome to Anne Provencher, Jessie Rivers, Vivian Ziemian, Tony Hartman, Joyce Platt, Frank Newton, and the M/C for the evening, Rollie Jacobs.

Before the show, the Turnverein will offer a choice of stuffed chicken breast or baked scrod including a fruit cup, salad, and dessert prepared by our excellent catering staff. The dinner will be served from 5:00-6:30 p.m. and the ticket for dinner and the show is \$25 per person. Please call Christa at 786-0143 for reservations by FEBRUARY 17th.

You may purchase admission tickets only for \$10 per person. Tickets can be picked up at the Springfield Turnverein any day after 4:00 p.m.

For businesses/services, our classified ads cost just \$15 per week for 30 words or less; for all other classifieds, the cost is \$10. However, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills Center (above Remillard Insurance Agency), or mail them (along with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.



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The Tools Of A "Carpenter"...

* "The Fog": 1980. Rated R.

John Carpenter again teamed with "Halloween" alumni Debra Hill in this super scarefest about a mysterious glowing fog that engulfs a small coastal town in California. As expected, terror lurks within the fog.

This film is very Carpenter-esque in that his trademark foreground/background shots are prevalent throughout the film. This fused with Carpenter's personally composed soundtrack. "Halloween" star Jamie Lee Curtis appears with Adrienne Barbeau, Hal Holbrook, Janet Leigh, and John Houseman.

This film generates enough eerie ambiance to give you chills. This is directly attributed to the antagonist, which is (for all intents and purposes) an inanimate object.

The film, to this day, enjoys a huge cult following among Carpenter's fans. It demonstrates Carpenter's unique approach to filmmaking and displays all of his tactics (combining camerawork and sound effects) to generate primal fear. **3 STARS.**

* "Christine": 1983. Rated R.

What happens when you combine Stephen King's imagination with John Carpenter's direction? Well, the result is a double-edged sword.

This film is based upon King's novel of the same name. The story centers around a 1968 Plymouth that takes on a life of its own. That pretty much sums up the plot. In typical King fashion, we spend most of the film waiting for an explanation for the supernatural occurrences we have been exposed to for 70-plus minutes (in this case, you wonder what possibly could cause a car to take on a personality). This is where the film fails.

Although Carpenter held up his end of the bargain by creating some very chilling shots (most of which singlehandedly personify the car), King's contribution is the weak link. The story is very shallow and, quite frankly, wasted the talent of John Carpenter, who was obviously very limited in terms of the subject matter he could explore.

The teaming of Carpenter and King should have been much more explosive than it was. They simply picked the wrong King novel for Carpenter to enhance with his direction because "Christine" just sputtered and stalled. **2 STARS.**

* "They Live": 1988. Rated R.

Here is a Carpenter film that plays as a cheesy B-movie from start to finish. First off, the top-billed actor was Roddy Piper. That's right, the wrestler known as Rowdy Roddy Piper. Not that he did a terrible job acting, but the storyline is something else that helps this film border on being boring.

The story deals with a group of beings (incognito as wealthy humans) that have been using mankind as slaves. When Piper's character stumbles upon a box

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FOOD DUDE - from Page 30

with slices of Velveeta. Other cheeses just will not do; use the Velveeta. Bake at 375 degrees 'til the cheese is all bubbly and just starting to brown at the edges. Serve them hot.

Next week, let's make some candy. Fudge is great stuff, and I have some easy recipes (including an old-fashioned one).

Always remember - "it's not what you're eating, it's whom your dining with."



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"Plan Your Own Trip" To NYC On May 12th

The Agawam Cultural Council is sponsoring a "plan your own" trip to New York City on May 12th. There are many activities such as museums, plays, and other cultural events which are available for people going on the trip.

Several stops will be made along Fifth Avenue, and included in this list are the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rockefeller Center, the Times Square Show Ticket Booth, 34th Street, and South Street Seaport.

The time of departure is 6:30 a.m., and the return trip will leave New York City at 6:30 p.m.

The cost of the trip is \$22. Tickets may be obtained by sending a check made out to the "Agawam Cultural Council." Please send your check (along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope) to the Agawam Cultural Council, 933 River Road, Agawam, MA 01001.

For further information, call 786-1859.

Please remember to patronize your local businesses ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

The Chris Hayes Memorial "Pig Roast" Held At The Agawam Polish Club On Aug. 12, 2000 Was A Great Success!!

The Family & Friends Of Chris Hayes Wish To Thank the Following Sponsors:

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We are proud to be able to present two
scholarships to Johnson & Wales
as well as one to Agawam High School.
We hope everyone enjoyed the day and look
forward to your support again.

**The Chris Hayes
Memorial Scholarship Committee**



Travel Talk...

by Lori Keeley, CTC
Travel Connections, LTD
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Disneyland Resort Expansion Includes New Theme Park

If you're looking for a little California dreamin', the Disneyland Resort offers the perfect new getaway. An all-new theme park celebrating the fun and adventures of California is the centerpiece of a major expansion of the Disneyland Resort. The expansion also includes Disney's Grand Californian Hotel, a 750-room deluxe property designed in the arts and crafts style of early 20th century California, and Downtown Disney, an exciting shopping, dining, and entertainment district.

Located next to Disneyland in Southern California, Disney's California Adventure celebrates the California dream - giving guests a taste of the adventures, ideas, and breathtaking settings that have attracted millions of people to California. As guests enter the park, they are greeted with the view of the Golden Gate Bridge. From this focal point, the three themed lands of Disney's California Adventure may be seen: **Golden State**, **Hollywood Pictures Backlot** and **Paradise Pier**.

Golden State has six distinct districts, and is highlighted by the majestic bear-shaped mountain called Grizzly Peak. The Grizzly Peak Recreation District of Golden State is an eight-acre mini-wilderness featuring *Grizzly River Run* - a heart-pounding white water raft adventure. Golden State also features *Soarin' Over California*, an exhilarating airborne adventure giving guests the sensation of literally flying above California's most notable landmarks.

Hollywood Pictures Backlot celebrates the magic of the movie business and the culture, fame, and celebrity atmosphere that surrounds it. Among the attractions featured is the "Hyperion Theater," a 2,000-seat venue for the new, live-stage production, Disney's "Steps in Time," and *Superstar Limo*, a breezy, tongue-in-cheek look at the world of Hollywood's "15 minutes of fame."

Paradise Pier is the ultimate beachfront amusement zone decked out in spectacular lighting and elegant graphics associated with the heyday of the great amusement park piers. One of the main attractions in Paradise Pier is *California Screamin'*, a 6,000-foot-long roller coaster that takes guests from 0 to 55 mph in less than five seconds, and features a 360-degree loop around a shimmering silhouette of Mickey Mouse.

Disney's Grand Californian Hotel, the new deluxe property at the Disneyland Resort, celebrates the turn-of-the-century romantic movement of California. The new hotel is the first Disney resort to be located inside a theme park - Disney's California Adventure - and offers its own entry gate into the new park.

Another enhancement to the Disneyland Resort is Disney's Paradise Pier Hotel. Formerly the Disneyland Pacific Hotel, Disney's Paradise Pier Hotel has been re-themed to complement the Paradise Pier land of Disney's California Adventure. The hotel's premier location gives many guests a view directly into the new park, and access to their own private entrance to the park.

At the heart of the Disneyland Resort is Downtown Disney, a public esplanade of highly-themed shopping, dining, and entertainment experiences by day or night. The Downtown Disney district serves as the dynamic center of the Disneyland Resort, with the lush, garden-like complex connecting the two theme parks - Disney's California Adventure and Disneyland - together with the Disneyland Resort hotels.

The Disneyland Resort will nearly double its size with the opening of Disney's California Adventure, Disney's Grand Californian Hotel, and Downtown Disney. Now is the perfect time to experience "A Whole New Vacation Full of Magic" at the new Disneyland Resort in Southern California. Contact Travel Connections Ltd. to be one of the first to experience the grandeur of California - Disney style.

PISANO - from Page 32

of sunglasses, he soon realizes that these glasses drastically alter the world around him. He soon realizes that what he sees is indeed the real thing. The film then turns into a civil war, of sorts, between the beings and Roddy and a co-worker he befriended.

The film starts out extremely slow and drags on for quite some time until we finally see the beings ... and they do prove to be (surprisingly) quite frightening. No sooner do these gruesome beings make you find renewed hope in this film, when we suddenly see Roddy's character survive and remain conscious in spite of some definitely hazardous incidents (such as a massive plunge out of a window, and a ruthless -

and very, very lengthy - street fight with his would-be partner that would definitely have knocked out even Mike Tyson!).

In this candidate for Carpenter's worst film, "they" may live, but you will sure wish this movie didn't. 1 STAR.

* "PISANO'S PICKS" REVIEW GUIDE: 5 STARS - Extraordinary; 4 STARS - Excellent; 3 STARS - Good; 2 STARS - Average; 1 STAR - Watchable; 0 STARS - Avoid.

Please send comments and film requests to "The Agawam Advertiser News," Attention: Lou Pisano, P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

If you have dropped off any photos to our office for Boy Scout activities, church events, etc., please pick them up after they appear in The AAN...

The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee

Announces Our

7th ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

The WMEAC dedicates this evening in memory of
WORCESTER FIREFIGHTER JAMES "JAY" LYONS
whose dream was to have his niece Cara be seizure-free.



April 8, 1964 - December 3, 1999

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Proceeds from this event will benefit Epilepsy Research and establish the James "Jay" Lyons Scholarship.

Help us help others understand!

This year's "*Inspiration for a Cure Award*" recipient is
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Tickets are available by calling:

Vincent & Carol Pietroniro

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Tickets: \$30 per person

Tables of 10 or 12 may be reserved.



Education

D.A.R.E. Graduation At Ag. Middle School



PROJECT D.A.R.E. held its annual graduation ceremonies at the Agawam Middle School. In top photo: Two of the school's D.A.R.E. graduates, Krystal Morace and Anthony Morassi, are pictured with (from left) Principal Ralph Zavarella, D.A.R.E. Officer Karen Langevin, Mayor Richard A. Cohen, D.A.R.E. Officer (instructor) John Field, and Assistant Principal Louis Spiro. In photo below (from left): D.A.R.E. Officer Karen Langevin, Danielle Sienkiewicz, Amanda Rozanski, Jessica Circosta-Aspinall, Erika Dowd, Mayor Richard A. Cohen, D.A.R.E. Officer (instructor) John Field, and Chief of Police Robert Campbell. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

Final Planning Mtg. For Sixth-Graders' April Vacation Trip

The final planning meeting for the students who are going on the New York/Washington, D.C./Philadelphia trip during April school vacation will be on Monday, February 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School cafeteria.

All the travelers and their parents should attend this meeting. Final arrangements and decisions need to be made in regards to rooming, meal choices, hat color, etc. Information on what to expect, what I expect, and what you should pack will be discussed.

Forms that need to be completed will be available at this meeting as well. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting, and don't forget to bring me your report card if you have not yet done so.

By the end of January, a total of \$350 in payments on each trip should have been made, with the last \$65 (per student) due in February. Checks should be made out to Washington Trip Acct. and mailed to Rachel Thomas, 43 Janelle Drive, Agawam, MA 01101-2735.

If you have any questions, you can reach me in the evening at 786-9896.

SAT Workshops Offered In Spfld. Feb. 20th & 21st

Students and parents are invited to attend Kaplan's free "Orientation to the SAT" workshops on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 20th and 21st, at 7:00 p.m. at The MacDuffie School and the Springfield Jewish Community Center.

Topics to be discussed will include competitive SAT scores, college admissions, and test-taking strategies. Many students raise their scores by just attending the seminar, and each family attending will receive a free Newsweek/Kaplan "How To Get Into College" guide.

This is a free workshop, but seating is limited. Call 1-800-KAP-TEST to reserve a seat.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -



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Wednesday, February 21st at 7pm



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Call to reserve a seat.

Local Students Named To RPI's Dean's List

The administration of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), located in Troy, New York, has announced the names of local students who made the Institute's Dean's List for the fall 2000 semester:

James A. Borowiec of Agawam, a freshman undeclared engineering major; **Pamela M. Eaton** of Feeding Hills, a senior environmental science and hydrogeology major; **Anthony J. Goodrow** of Feeding Hills, a sophomore undeclared engineering major; **Mario A. Santillo** of Feeding Hills, a sophomore aeronautical engineering and mechanical engineering major; and **Richard S. Skowyra** of Feeding Hills, a senior biomedical engineering major.

The Dean's List at RPI recognizes full-time students who maintain grade-point averages of a minimum of 3.0 out of a possible 4.0 and have no grades below "C."

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, letters, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!



From The AHS Guidance Office...

by Judy Cohen
Agawam High School
Guidance Counselor

But He Said He Loved Me (Part 1 Of 2)

One afternoon after school, I had an appointment. Looking behind the desk at the receptionist, a flash of recognition overcame me. Was it really Jill? I peered a little more closely. Jill must have felt my eyes upon her, since she looked up, stared at me for just a moment, and then her face broke out into a wonderful smile.

"Mrs. Cohen ... it is you, isn't it? How are you? Are you still at Agawam?" "Yes," I responded. "I guess I just love it too much to leave. Touching lives like yours and trying to make a difference keeps me going. How have you been and how's the little one?"

The little one, I soon found out, is now attending an elementary school! Where have the years gone? It seems like only yesterday when a teacher sought me out and voiced her concerns about Jill.

"You know, Judy, I am really concerned about Jill. She is still one of my top students, but her affect just isn't the same. Then, too, I notice her look has changed. I don't know, she just seems to have gotten rounder. Do you think she's all right? Do you think she could be pregnant? Can you call her in and at least talk to her and try to find out what's going on? Then, get back to me. Please don't tell her that I came to see you."

With that, the teacher turned on her heels and left, leaving me to my own devices. What should I do? Obviously, I didn't have an option. I had to call in Jill.

I issued a pass and waited for what seemed like an eternity. I had no clue what I was going to say or do.

Looking up from my desk, I noticed the outside door opening and there stood Jill. Watching her as she approached me, I noticed that she did seem to have gained weight. Other than that, though, she looked the same.

She took a seat across from me. I smiled and decided to get right to the point. None of this non-directive therapy ... I've always found being direct gets more responses and hones right in on the problem. So, I began ... "Jill, how are you doing? Is everything O.K.? I mean, I've noticed you in the hallways and to me you look as if you've gained some weight." She shifted uncomfortably in her seat, looked down at her fidgeting hands, and then gazed up at me. "Yes, I suppose I have, but I don't know why. And I do seem to be tired all the time."

I looked at her sweater and there seemed to be a slight bulge under it. After pausing for just a brief moment, I decided to plow right ahead (my being direct, you know). "Jill, would you mind terribly lifting up your sweater just a little for me?" I don't know what possessed me, but I needed to see if there really was a bulge. I guess Jill was so surprised with my request that she readily raised up the bottom of her sweater just a bit and voila ... there was the bulge.

"Jill, thanks, now I really need to ask you this. Are you pregnant?" She looked at me with disbelief written all over her face and quickly retorted, "Mrs. Cohen, just what kind of girl do you think I am? After all ... I'm a senior, I'm almost done with school, my marks are great, and I'm looking forward to college."

"I know, Jill, but I'm concerned. Your stomach does look large. Are you having any medical problems?" And so the conversation went. Finally, it became apparent that Jill had no clue that she could be pregnant.

(To be continued next week...)

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About your instructor: Beth Bielat is the founder of LifeBreath™ Institute, an educational outreach program to help people create harmony in the mind, body, emotions and spirit. Beth has been involved in the Martial Arts and fitness industry for thirty years. She has been teaching seminars and lecturing throughout the U.S. She is a mother and homemaker, owns and operates a fitness, karate & wellness center. She is a personal trainer and 6th degree black belt. Join her on her journey. It's fun, educational and life altering.

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A SWEETHEART OF A DEAL

Troop 561 Takes Part In Jr. Women Program



JR. GIRL SCOUT TROOP 561 went shopping in December for an eight-year-old girl as part of the Agawam Junior Women's "Adopt A Child" program. The girls purchased clothing and accessories. The funds came from troop dues and contributions from each girl in the troop. Troop 561 enjoyed being able to contribute to the needs of the young girl and said it put them in the Christmas spirit.

Storowton Offers Vacation Program

Children age seven through 12 can step into the 19th century and learn more about Early American Village life during Storowton Village Museum's winter vacation program, titled "A Day Away in the Past."

The program will be offered twice, **February 21st or 22nd** from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Children spending a day away in the past will dress in period costumes provided by the Village and try their hand at crafts such as candle dipping, basket-making, and Early American games.

They will also participate in old-fashioned games and experience the uniqueness of a one-room school-house as they "take their lessons" from the "Schoolmistress."

The cost for the one-day program is \$25. Registration must be received by February 16th.

To register or to find out about this unique historic program, call the Storowton Village Museum office at 413-787-0136.

Area Students On Dean's List At Bentley College

Bentley College Undergraduate Dean Charles R. Hadlock has announced that the following area students have been named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester:

Amy Bilodeau of Agawam, a senior finance major; **Nicholas Devanski** of Agawam, a senior finance major; **Todd Jorgensen** of Agawam, a senior finance major; **Adam Kimball** of Feeding Hills, a senior finance major; and **Lindsay Mason** of Feeding Hills, a sophomore business communication major.

To be named to the Dean's List at Bentley College, a full-time student must have a grade point average of 3.3 or higher, with no course grade below 2.0 during the term.

Pre-Registration For Kindergarten Now Taking Place

Children who will be five years of age prior to October 1, 2001 are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten in Agawam for the 2001-2002 school year.

Parents of children who will be eligible for kindergarten are requested to contact the nearest elementary school as soon as possible.

Parents are encouraged to register their children prior to the last day of kindergarten screening - May 4, 2001.

Please remember to patronize your local businesses ...
ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Area Resident Graduates From RPI

Pamela Marie Eaton of 1048 Northwest Street, Feeding Hills, was among those students who were awarded undergraduate and graduate degrees in December 2000 from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI).

She received a bachelor of science in environmental science/hydrogeology, and she graduated magna cum laude.

Located in Troy, New York, RPI is the nation's first technological university. The school is currently ranked among the nation's top 50 universities by *U.S. News & World Report* and is placed at number 20 in best value.

For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

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More Good Times For Sacred Heart's Pack 75



LEADERS AND MEMBERS OF CUB PACK 75 from Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills marched in the Agawam Day Parade at The Big E. Leaders in photo are (back row, from left) Nancy Cannizzaro, Cheryl Fennyery, Heidi Dintzner, and Robin Dunn McDonagh. Scouts in photo are Mason Dunn McDonagh, Jarett Maynard, Corey Fennyery, John Tortoriello, Mark Frazier, Nathaniel Dintzner, Christopher Colby, Paul Munzert, Landon & Montana Cannizzaro (in carriage), and Chapin and Logan Cannizzaro (front row).



PACK 75 of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills really let the good times roll over the past year. Above, a group of Webelos Scouts perform a skit for other members of the group at Moses Scout Reservation in Russell.

Area Students Attain Dean's List At Elms

Dr. Anne Harrison, Academic Dean at Elms College in Chicopee, has announced that the following area students have been named to the Dean's List for the first semester of the 2000-2001 academic year:

From Agawam: Irina Skovorodina, daughter of Sergey & Lyubon Skovorodina; **Melissa Boissonneault**, daughter of Alan & Linda

Boissonneault.

From Feeding Hills: Christina Januska, daughter of Richard & Lise Januska.

The Dean's List at Elms College is composed of students who have earned a grade point average of 3.50 or higher.



PACK 75 SCOUTS from Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills seek gold nuggets at Moses Reservation in Russell.

Brooke L. Ramah Named To "Who's Who" At Elms

Brooke L. Ramah of Feeding Hills, a student at Elms College in Chicopee, has been named to the 2001 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

Students are chosen based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential for continued success.

These students join an elite group of students from more than 2,300 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and seven foreign nations.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

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Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Mon., Feb. 12th: "Stewart's" pepperoni French bread pizza, chips, fresh whole baby carrots, chilled fruit, assorted pudding.

Tues., Feb. 13th: AHS: Five chicken nuggets w/dipping sauce, steamed white rice, seasoned corn, chilled fruit, "wacky cake." Jr. High, Middle, & Elem.: Rotini w/meatballs & sauce, bread & butter, tossed salad w/dressing, chilled fruit, "wacky cake."

Wed., Feb. 14th: AHS: Rotini w/meatballs & sauce, bread & butter, tossed salad w/dressing, chilled fruit, school-baked cookies. Jr. High, Middle, & Elem.: Five chicken nuggets w/BBQ sauce, steamed white rice, seasoned corn, chilled fruit, "Valentine shape-ups."

Thurs., Feb. 15th: AHS & Jr. High: New Shaved turkey & cheese pretzel melts, individual Doritos, vegetable pasta salad, chilled fruit, Jello w/topping. Middle & Elem.: Chef Boyardee "Dinosaur Pasta," bread & butter, seasoned mixed vegetables, chilled fruit, assorted Jello w/topping.

Fri., Feb. 16th: Grilled cheese sandwich, seasoned potato wedges, "vegetable of the day," chilled fruit, "dessert of the day."

Sign-Ups Taking Place For Youth Lacrosse Teams

Sign-ups for the Town of Agawam's fourth- through sixth-grade and seventh- and eighth-grade boys' lacrosse teams, as well as the fifth- through eighth-grade girls' lacrosse team, are now taking place at the Agawam Recreation Department.

Teams will practice/play two evenings a week from April through the second week in June (no weekends, with the exception of the season-ending playoffs). The fee is \$50 per child, and your own equipment is required.

For more information, please contact City Council Vice-President Robert Young at 786-8995, or the Agawam Recreation Department at 821-0513.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

Various Scholarships Available From American Legion Auxiliary

The following scholarships are being sponsored by the American Legion/American Legion Auxiliary:

Student Scholarships

The Department of Massachusetts American Legion Auxiliary will issue one department scholarship of \$500 and 10 district scholarships of \$100 each to children of veterans in Massachusetts (the children must be residents of Massachusetts). A Past Presidents' Parley Nursing Scholarship of \$200 will also be awarded.

All scholarships are based on the following:

The Department of Massachusetts American Legion Auxiliary may contribute toward the expenses of higher education of any child, stepchild, grandchild, great-grandchild, or step-grandchild not under the age of 16 nor over the age of 22 who is related to a U.S. veteran (living or deceased) who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion: WWI, April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918; WWII, December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946; Korea, June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955; Vietnam, February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975; Grenada and Lebanon, August 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984; Panama, December 20, 1989 - January 31, 1990; Persian Gulf, August 2, 1990 through cessation of hostilities.

The Unit President must receive application and your school transcript by March 15, 2001.

National President's Scholarship

There will be 15 scholarships awarded for the year 2000-2001. Three scholarships will be awarded in each division of the American Legion; one in the amount of \$2,500; one in the amount of \$2,000; and one in the amount of \$1,000. All are gift scholarships and are not loans.

Candidates for this award shall be the daughters or sons of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion: WWI, April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918; WWII, December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946; Korea, June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955; Vietnam, February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975; Grenada and Lebanon, August 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984; Panama, December 20, 1989 - January 31, 1990; Persian Gulf, August 2, 1990 through cessation of hostilities.

Applicants must be in their senior year of high school. The scholarship must be used within 24 months of the date the winner is notified by National Headquarters. Applicant must complete 50 hours of

volunteer service within the community, verified in writing by the recipient's organization(s). Applicant must present the completed application to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit President or on before March 10, 2001.

Gladys Catchepaugh Memorial Scholarship

Each year, Wilson-Thompson Auxiliary Unit 185 awards a scholarship in memory of Gladys Catchepaugh. Applicants must be seniors who are the son or daughter of a veteran who are continuing their education. Applications must be received by April 1, 2001.

Non-Traditional Scholarships

Every year, the American Legion Auxiliary offers several scholarships; this year is no exception. The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts will award one department non-traditional scholarship in the amount of \$200.

Applicant must be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, American Legion, or Sons of the American Legion, and shall have paid dues for the two preceding years and for the calendar year in which the application is being made. Applicant must be a non-traditional student returning to the classroom after some period of time in which his/her formal education was interrupted and be a resident of Massachusetts. The Unit President must receive applications by March 15, 2001.

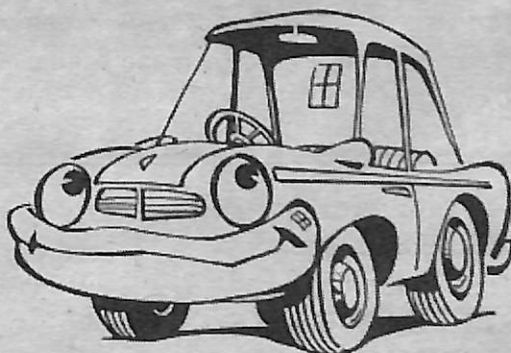
Additionally, there will be five non-traditional student scholarships each in the amount of \$1,000 awarded in the 2000-2001 administrative year. One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary. Applicant must be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, American Legion, or Sons of the American Legion, and shall have paid dues for the two preceding years and for the calendar year in which the application is being made. Applicant must be a non-traditional student returning to the classroom after some period of time in which his/her formal education was interrupted, or a student who has at least one year of college and is in need of financial assistance to pursue an undergraduate degree.

The scholarship must be used within 24 months of the date the winner is notified by National Headquarters, American Legion Auxiliary. Applicant must present the completed application to the

SEE SCHOLARSHIPS - Page 39

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SCHOLARSHIPS - from Page 38

American Legion Auxiliary Unit President on or before March 10, 2001.

**Spirit Of Youth Scholarship
For Junior Members**

Five four-year scholarships will be awarded for the year 2000-2001. One four-year scholarship will be awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary in the amount of \$1,000 per year. All are gift scholarships and are not loans.

Candidates for this award shall be/shall have been junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary; said member to have held junior membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the past three years and must hold a membership card for the current 2001 year. Applicant must continue her membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the four-year scholarship period.

Applicants must be in their senior year of an accredited high school. This is a four-year scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education. Applicants must be of good character and have grades which meet entrance requirements at the institution of their choice. Applicant must have at least a 3.0 GPA, using a 4.0 base.

Applicant must present the completed application packet to the Unit President on or before March 10, 2001. Use of the scholarship must commence within 24 months of the date the winner is notified by National Headquarters.

Applications for all of these American Legion/American Legion Auxiliary scholarships are available from your guidance office, local Post, Squadron, or Unit officers, or from Wilson-Thompson Auxiliary Unit 185 Scholarship Chairman Pauline Brown, 786-6169, or Unit President Mary Ellen Morissette, 789-7278.

Coaches Wanted For Youth Lacrosse Teams

Coaches are needed this spring for the Town of Agawam's fourth- through sixth-grade boys' lacrosse team, and the fifth- through eighth-grade girls' lacrosse team. Teams will practice/play two evenings per week from April through the second week in June (no weekends, with the exception of the season-ending playoffs).

For more information, please contact City Council Vice-President Robert Young at 786-8995, or the Agawam Recreation Department at 821-0513.

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Nancy Hallbauer Honored By Boy Scouts

Nancy Ruth Hallbauer of Agawam was among Scout leaders honored with the Silver Beaver Award at the 41st Annual Scouter's Recognition Banquet held recently at the Knights of Columbus #4044 in Fairview.

The Silver Beaver is awarded annually by the Boy Scouts of America, National Court of Honor for exceptional service by an adult volunteer in the leadership of Scouting program for youth in the local area. The award is made for noteworthy service of exceptional character to youth in the Pioneer Valley Council.

Nancy Ruth Hallbauer first became involved over 20 years ago as a Den Leader for the Cub Scouts. She has served in many leadership positions, including Unit Commissioner, Pack Committee Chairperson, Cub Scout Trainer, and has chaired many District events.

She is the recipient of the District Award of Merit, the Scouter's Key, the Distinguished Commissioner Award, the Arrowhead Honor, and a Doctoral degree from the College of Commissioner Science. In addition to her scouting, she has been very active as the secretary of her church's Parish Council. She is the wife of Jack Hallbauer and is the mother of an Eagle Scout and grandmother of two Eagles.

The Pioneer Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America, is chartered to build and strengthen positive qualities of character, participating citizenship, and personal fitness; providing the challenge for today's youth that helps them to prepare for tomorrow.

The Pioneer Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America, serves more than 7,300 youth throughout Hampden County through 1,700 volunteers in over 150 Scouting programs.

The programs of the Boy Scouts of America include Cub Scouts (boys in grades 1-5), Boy Scouts (boys in grades 6 and up), and Exploring and Venturing (boys and girls, 14-20).

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ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*

Troop 78 To Host Valentine Dance At Turnverein

On Saturday, February 10th, the Venture Patrol from Boy Scout Troop 78 will hold a Valentine's Day Ziti and Meatball Dinner and Dance at their chartering organization, the Springfield Turnverein on Garden Street.

The dinner will be served in the main hall from 7:00 p.m. until midnight. A DJ will provide music with tunes ranging from the 50's to today. The cost of the event is \$6 in advance, \$7 at the door, and \$5 for anyone not getting food. This event is open to anyone looking for a good time and good food on a Saturday night.

The Venture Patrol is a group of about 10 boys who are saving up for a week's trip of mountain biking, sea kayaking, rock climbing, hiking, and other high adventure activities in Acadia National Park in Maine. Last year, they used the profits from their dinner dance to take an exciting trip to the Adirondack High Peaks in New York. It was an adventurous trips where the Venture Patrol hiked roughly 40 miles and scaled the highest peak in New York, Mt. Marcy.

The Venture Patrol has looked to local businesses to support the event, and so far, Stop & Shop, Big Y, and Party Warehouse have graciously donated food and decorations. The Venture Patrol would like to thank these businesses for the continuing support they give to the citizens of Western Massachusetts.

For further information and tickets, contact Dan Boissonneault at 786-8565, Nate Skiba at 786-8663, or Bill Bond at 821-9871. We look forward to a big turnout and a night of fun, dancing, and good food. Thank you in advance.

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Sports

Central Deals AHS Matmen 2nd Loss As WMass. Looms

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For the second Wednesday in a row, the Agawam High wrestling team lost to one of the tall hogs at the trough in Western Massachusetts wrestling - dropping a 39-21 decision to visiting Central High last week, which followed their loss to Ludlow High seven days earlier (also at Kibbe Gym).

For the Golden Eagles, it was a vindication, seeing as how they hadn't beaten the Brownies in a dual meet since 1991.

The loss sent Agawam to 13-4, 3-2 in the Valley League. The Eagles soared to 9-3 and 4-1 in the Valley.

Agawam is now gearing up for the Western Mass. Division I Tournament to be held February 9th-10th at Ludlow. The Brownies last won the title in 1998 and finished second in 1999 to defending two-time champ Ludlow High.

Things started out on a down note for Agawam, as it lost in the 103's, which saw Central take the early lead, 6-0, on a pin with 54 seconds gone in the third period.

Agawam tied things up when veteran senior, Eric Hogan, locked up with Eagle sophomore, Albee Green. Hogan was all over the Eagle, taking a 5-0 lead into the second two minutes. Hogan executed a nice takedown and twisted Green onto his back for a pin with 49 seconds gone, tying things at six.

Agawam had no answer in the 112's, where Andy Korney (a good one in his own right) met Central's All-Western Mass. standout, Shareef Jacobs. The

Central senior had little trouble. Up 12-0 with only seconds gone in the second period, Jacobs scored one on a reverse and two on a takedown for a 15-0 major decision and five points.

Central, leading 14-6, hit paydirt again with a 9-4 decision in the 125's. This was a fairly close match, as junior Bryan Ghedi wrestled from behind for the duration (7-1 after one, 9-2 after two) but just couldn't catch a break on Anthony Trimboli, who - with his big lead - wisely wrestled defensively, putting Central up, 14-6.

Agawam got the three points back on a gutsy performance by Luke Cardone in the 130's. The Brownie senior faced Central junior Corey Strange. Cardone was only up, 1-0, on a second-period escape when a takedown with a minute left gave him a 3-0 advantage and the eventual 3-0 decision.

Adam Blackak got the call from Coach Kirk Parker for the 135's. Blackak had a tough one against Central senior Dennis Brown. Neither kid scored in the first period. Brown led 3-1 on an escape and a takedown after two. The Brownie managed another point on an escape with a minute left in the third, but he would get no more and fell on a 3-2 decision.

The 140-pound class is one reason the faithful show up for Agawam wrestling. It is the domain of Aaron Gilbert. [We apologize to Aaron for calling him Adam Blackak once or twice in the Ludlow story. Both

* AHS Girls Division Champs...

* Boys Place Third...

WMass. Track Meet Set For Friday

The inaugural season of indoor varsity track finished with a huge bang for the Agawam High girls. The Brownies reeled off seven straight Division A victories, resulting in a first-place finish at a perfect 7-0 (7-1 overall).

The boys, meanwhile, started fast, lost their last three dual meets at the Smith College Indoor Track facility, but maintained a 5-3 record, good for third place in Division A.

Both teams are competing in the Western Mass. Indoor Tournament, slated for Friday evening, February 9th, again at Smith College.

Indoor Coach Dan Pryce remains more than optimistic about Agawam's chances at WMass., especially the girls, who must be considered one of the challengers for the title, although Cathedral from Division B is the solid frontrunner, with B Division champion East Longmeadow (7-0) also well into the mix.

"If you look at the seeding, we should finish fourth. But I'm looking at a second- or third-place spot. We probably won't beat Cathedral because they've been holding back some of their best athletes in events like the 4 x 400-meter relay and the mile," said Pryce.

SEE WRESTLING - Page 41

SEE TRACK - Page 41

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WRESTLING - from Page 40

are accomplished wrestlers, but there is only one Gilbert.]

The Brownie senior and tri-captain came in with a 23-0 record. He was in control from the get go, leading 4-1 after one on a couple of takedowns, and 6-1 at the end of two after a takedown with 50 seconds left. The All-Western Mass. performer went on to take his 24th win of the year, 9-2.

The Brownies were now within hailing distance of the soaring Eagles - 17-12.

Sophomore Paul Pilegi, filling in for an injured Corey Federico, gave Agawam the lead on a great effort in the 145's. Pilegi was aggressive from the opening whistle. He was up, 3-2, with 53 seconds gone and began riding his opponent, Juan Hernandez, who was trying to crawl out-of-bounds. A pin attempt earned Pilegi three points on a near-fall and the Brownie led 6-2 after two.

It was all Pilegi in the third, despite a split and bleeding upper lip (which had to bother him). He led 9-2 on another near-fall with 20 seconds gone, and 12-2 with 1:17 left. Seventeen seconds later, he pinned the Eagle and gave Agawam an 18-17 lead.

Central got the lead back in a hurry when Dave Mcbee pinned Mike Hill in the 152's. The score was tied at two with 50 seconds left in the second period. A Mcbee takedown got Hill into trouble and (despite a big effort) he couldn't escape a pinfall with 15.2 seconds to go.

And the Eagles were back on top, 23-18.

Bruce Leclair lost a close 3-2 decision in the 160's. Leclair had tied things at two on a third-period takedown. But his Eagle opponent got the win with an escape as time ran out.

Agawam was now down 26-18. And it was time for the Brownies to maybe start to sweat slightly. There were four matches left, in the upper weight categories (where Central is very strong).

Nick Beaudette fell, 6-2, in the 171's. Beaudette had things tied at two after the second period. Then the Eagles' Dan Diaz scored two on a reverse and two more on another reverse for the win, putting Central up, 29-18.

Tough veteran Brian Pedersen showed what he was made of in his 189 match. The big junior was down 2-0 after one and 3-2 at the end of the second period to Central senior Kym Sturdivant.

Pedersen engineered a gutsy comeback in the final two minutes, going up on a reverse, falling behind on a Sturdivant reverse. Then Pedersen, knowing how vital a win would be for his team, reversed out of two Sturdivant holds for a hard-fought, 10-7 decision.

The score was 29-21, Central - semi-good news for Agawam. But bad news also muscled into the picture. The Eagles had two All-Western Mass. kids in the final matches: second-team junior Garvin Headley (215's), and first-team senior Manuel Robles (275's). The handwriting was right there on the wall for one and all to view.

The Brownies would need either two major decisions, a major decision and a pin, or two pins to even have a chance of pulling this one out. Even a DQ for a stall (six points) and a major decision would do.

It was not to be. Headley pinned freshman Steve Santinello with 58.1 left in the first period. The 35-21 Central lead was now impossible to overcome.

Robles stalked onto the mat. The three-time All-Western Mass. champ in the heavyweight division took on Brownie junior Josh Abraham. Abraham was game, but Robles was on top of his, winning a 12-1 major decision.

"Ski & Snowboard Savings Book" Offers Great Values

The American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts, Freeride Snowsports, and nine ski resorts are offering downhill skiers free lift tickets and other major ski discounts during the 2000-2001 ski season.

To order the Ski & Snowboard Savings Book, or for more information, please call the American Lung Association at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

TRACK - from Page 40

"But a second place for the girls is very possible. If not second, then probably third. We need all of our seeded girls to step up one notch from where their seed is to really threaten Cathedral and EL," added Pryce.

As for the boys, Pryce's troops are suffering from a numbers shortage. "Unlike the girls, where we could overwhelm other teams with our depth, the boys only have 11 competitors and we are looking for a top-five finish, with Minnechaug being the overwhelming favorite," observed Pryce.

Over on the girls' side, two performers, Andrea Babbini and Christine McGavin (both sophomores), each have qualified for the State Meet and are seeded high at WMass. Babbini is seeded third in the long jump at 15'3-1/4" (states), and got a 10th seed in the 55 meters (8.0 seconds). Babbini was the team's top point-getter this winter with 61.5 points, including seven firsts and seven seconds in the dual meet competition. Babbini will also run in the 4 x 400 relay.

McGavin (one of the big surprises this winter) was fifth in team scoring with 36 points and is seeded fifth in the shot put at 29'10-1/4".

Sophomore Danielle Cirillo, third in team scoring with 58.5 points, is seeded fourth in the 300 meters at 47.5 and ninth in the long jump at 14'6-1/2". Cirillo had eight firsts and five seconds in the dual meet season. She will run the 4 x 400 relay, too.

The highest Brownie seed is sophomore Kaitlin Sardella, second, in the 1,000 meters (3:28.4). She tabulated the second most individual points on the team this season (59.25) and led the team in first-place finishes with 11. Sardella will run the 4 x 400

relay. Sophomore Jody Pfau, injured for the first part of the winter, is seeded third in the 1,000-meter run at 3:35.5.

Senior Heather Newalu, besides running the 4 x 400 relay, placed fourth on the team in scoring with 41 points, including three firsts and six seconds. She is seeded fourth in the 600 meters at 1:55.7, followed by seventh-seeded Catherine Sheehan (1:58.6), 11th in team scoring (16 points).

Other Brownies to be seeded included Sarah Leydon, eighth in team scoring with 22.5 points, tied for 10th seed in 55-meter hurdles (11.1 seconds); freshman Laura Pederson, sixth in team scoring with 32 points, tied for 10th seed in 55-meter hurdles; Heather Cox, 12th in team scoring with 14.75 points, tied for 10th seed in 55-meter hurdles; and Amanda Moquin, sixth in team scoring with 32 points, ninth seed in two-mile run at 14:02.7.

For the boys, senior Steve Messina is seeded second in the 55-meter dash at 6.5 seconds. He was third in Brownie scoring with 52 points, including eight firsts and three seconds.

In the 300 meters, Chris Tedone, tied for fifth in team scoring with 47.75 points, is seeded fifth at 38.7 seconds; in the 1,000-meter run, Steve Atkinson (the team's top scorer with 75.5 points) got a sixth seed at 2:57.2; and Steve Turner, tied for fifth in team scoring with 47.75 points (including six firsts and four seconds), is seeded fourth in the long jump at 18'9-1/2".

"Looking up and down our lineup, this will only greatly improve our spring track program," said Pryce. "Some of these kids really stepped up in a big way this winter and there's only good things ahead for the Agawam track program."

Parks & Rec. Selling Tickets For Spfld. Slamm

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department is selling tickets for the Springfield Slamm. Come see the Slamm at any one of their home games by purchasing a flex ticket at the Recreation office (located behind the Agawam High School).

Adult tickets can be purchased for \$9, of which \$3 will be donated towards the building of the new Skateboard Park, and children under age 18 can purchase tickets for \$6, with \$2 being donated towards the building of the new Skateboard Park.

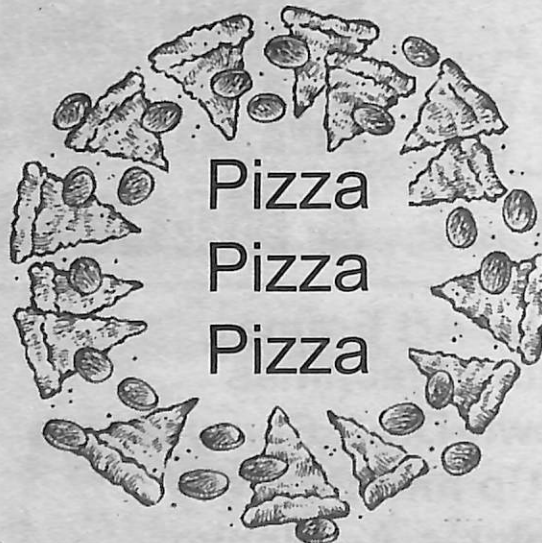
Flex tickets can be purchased Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and can be used at any of the following games:

Sat., Feb. 17th vs Philadelphia, E. Longmeadow High, 7:00 p.m.; **Sun., Feb. 18th** vs Morris, E. Longmeadow High, 4:00 p.m.; **Sat., March 3rd** vs. New York, South Hadley High, 7:30 p.m.; **Sat., March 24th** vs New Philadelphia, Cathedral High, 7:00 p.m.; **Sun., March 25th** vs Philadelphia, Cathedral High, 4:00 p.m.

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Profile...

Heather Newalu Plays Key Role In AHS Indoor Track Success

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Heather Newalu has been a strong member of the Agawam High girls' track team for four years. Currently, she is running indoors and is performing at a high level.

Recently, the senior took some time out to talk about herself and her days at AHS.

Heather has spent all four years of her secondary education at the school.

Currently, she is taking English 12, entrepreneurship, culinary arts, and chemistry. She is in the Future Teachers Club, was in the Math Club, and also the Renaissance Club.

Her favorite course was practical law.

Arthur Gage (physics) is her top teacher.

Heather is looking to Springfield Technical Community College next fall, with a major in business. She hopes to play soccer there.

Indoor and outdoor track, plus soccer, are her sports at AHS.

Outdoor track has been her favorite. "I can't wait for it. I like the individual competition and the friends I've made. All of us are so close."

Heather's most memorable sports memory came in her freshman year of outdoor track. "They wanted me to run the mile and I did, winning it against Southwick. Remember, I was just a freshman and I was worried how the upperclassmen would view what I'd done. But it was a great victory for me and helped my confidence," she laughed.

Heather also had a big moment a few weeks ago when the Brownie girls faced then-undefeated Holyoke. She finished second in the divisional com-



HEATHER NEWALU

petition in the high jump, giving the Brownies a 46-45 victory in the final event. AHS has won the division at 7-0 and is 7-11 overall.

Popcorn is Heather's favorite food.

Silver is her top color.

She would like to own a black Eclipse with a spoiler.

Heather likes to hang out with her best friend, Brownie skier Ashley Guiel. Heather also has a boyfriend - former Agawam soccer player Jon Ashwell. According to Heather, they've been together for a while.

She buys her clothes at H&M at the Holyoke Mall. "I like anything comfortable, preferably with a 60's to 90's look," she said.

She likes all kinds of music. Jewel and Madonna are her favorite artists.

"Whose Line Is It, Anyway?" tops the tube for her. "Ten Things I Hate About You" and "Coyote Ugly" top the big screen in her eyes.

Maureen is her mom. Ed is her dad. She has a sister, Jess (a junior at AHS), plus a half-sister, Laura, and a half-brother, Lance, both of whom are older than she is.

She looks up to Ashley Guiel. "She has always been there for me to talk to," Heather said.

Heather would like to be remembered when her days as a Brownie are over as a kid who left with good thoughts of everyone she met. "All my friends were equal in my eyes. I think that's important," she said.

Indoor track Coach Dan Pryce had this to say about Heather: "Heather has been with us since her freshman year. As a senior, she hasn't missed a practice or a meet. She is unselfish and a warrior in the 600 meters. She'll do anything we ask. Right now, she has qualified in the 600 for Western Mass., which will be held this Friday night (February 9th) at Smith College."

Weekly Tai Chi Classes Offered At The Springfield Turnverein

Advanced Level Tai Chi Classes are being offered at the Springfield Turnverein on 176 Garden St. in Feeding Hills every Monday from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese form of exercise which improves concentration, coordination, flexibility,

and balance.

The instructor is well-known Baiqing Li. He begins the class with a gentle warm-up, breathing, and balancing exercise. Then he will lead the class through 24 forms of Tai Chi, demonstrating individual poses,

step-by-step, gradually linking the movements together in longer sequences. Classes end with cooling down exercise.

All age groups are invited to join the class. For more information, please call Christa at 786-0143.

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Brownie Skaters Rebound With Win Over Pittsfield

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

After its 9-1 loss last week to Minnechaug Regional, you might think the Agawam High hockey team would just roll over and play out the string. But these kids aren't like that.

Despite no playoff hopes anymore, they came back and beat a good Pittsfield High team, 4-3, last Saturday afternoon (February 3rd) at Cyr Arena.

"Yeah, it was a good win for us. The kids still have a lot of fight left in them," Brownie head hockey Coach John Cirelli smiled.

The coach started Nick Deplama and flanked him with Tony LeClair and John Tisdell. Adam Sprague was on defense, along with Ben Crum. Ryan Zaczynski manned the net.

Zac made two good saves to start things off; one a pad job with 2:21 gone, and another off his skate on the rebound five seconds later.

Zaczynski's heroics spurred on his teammates. At the 3:59 mark, off an assist by Depalma, Dennis Walters scored from 15 feet in front, giving Agawam a 1-0 lead.

Dan Mancini and Sprague buzzed the Generals' net with 5:25 gone. The Brownies were playing aggressive hockey on both offense and defense.

Crum went off for high sticking at 8:41. Freshman Jeff Trauschke (still ailing from a hip), junior Mike Kosinski, freshman Mike Davis, and junior Jason Callahan killed the penalty.

"They have done a good job on our shorthanded unit all year long. Remember, we have a lot of underclassmen on this team," Cirelli pointed out.

Tisdell had a great opportunity at 5:45 on a jam from the left crease, but he couldn't quite get it by Pittsfield keeper Steph Whalen.

A minute later, however, LeClair - on a left-wing rush aided by Tisdell (who would get no credit for an assist) - beat the junior to the glove side on a slapshot from 30 feet out for Agawam's second score. "That's exactly where I wanted it to go," LeClair smiled.

With 2:40 to go in the first, Agawam had a power play, which was killed. With 32 seconds left, Zac made a nice glove save to preserve a 2-0, Agawam first-period lead.

Pittsfield came out slightly fired-up to start the second 15 minutes. They were up against the same start-

ing Brownie six. The Generals buzzed the Agawam net. But Sprague, Tisdell, and LeClair (coming off a leg injury) skated the puck out of harm's way. Trauschke and Tony Dimaio also contributed to the fine Brownie defensive effort.

Both teams went a man down with 2:38 gone; Pittsfield for a hold, and Agawams' Jason Callahan for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Zac faced the Pittsfield rush and made a nice stick save. Junior Andy Pevlin stopped a General drive before it reached Zac at 11:15. Pevlin then broke up a potentially dangerous Pittsfield drop shot with 10:30 to go.

Agawam, playing good "D" behind Crum, Mike Kosinski and Mike Peetros, maintained its 2-0 lead through two, setting up a wild third period.

Pittsfield scored its first goal at 5:24 of the third off

a rebound.

Agawam answered right back at 6:10, when John Tisdell skated in from the left wing on a feed from LeClair and beat Whalen from 20 feet out for the 3-1 AHS lead.

Forty-one seconds later, Pittsfield scored and narrowed the Brownie gap, 3-2.

One minute later, Agawam gained some breathing room off the stick of Tisdell, as he collected his second goal of the game, assisted by Depalma.

Pittsfield would not go belly up. After some good defensive hockey led by Crum, Kosinski, and Peetros, Agawam found itself a man down with 1:02 to go. A melee in front of Agawam's net with 52 ticks left resulted in Pittsfield's third goal on the power play.

Agawam hung on for the win to run its record to 4-10-1.

Thomas DalMolin Scholarship Hockey Night On Feb. 16th

The Thomas DalMolin Scholarship Hockey Night will be held on Friday, February 16th. Tickets for "The Falcons versus The Hartford Wolfpack" are available for \$8, with \$2 of each ticket being given to the scholarship fund.

Each year, the Thomas DalMolin Scholarship Fund awards four \$500 scholarships to any Agawam High School graduate who has participated in hockey, field hockey, or boys' and girls' soccer.

Tickets can be obtained by calling Kip at 786-9733, Mary Lou at 786-1959, or Jim Rolandini at 736-4170.

Come and bring the family for a night of fun and relaxation. Help support the youth in our community.

Sign-Ups Slated For Babe Ruth League

The Agawam Babe Ruth League will hold sign-ups for the upcoming season on Wednesday, February 28th, and Wednesday, March 21st. The sign-ups will be held in the Faolin Peirce Room of the Agawam Police Department. The fee is \$75.

The Babe Ruth season runs from late April until early June. Games are played at Shea Field and St. John's Field. Prospective players cannot turn 16 after August 1, 2001.

If you have questions, call John DeBonville at 786-3588.

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Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

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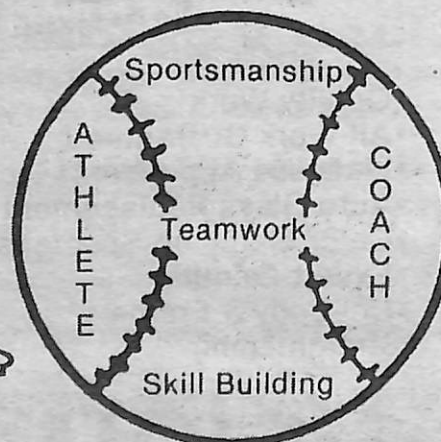
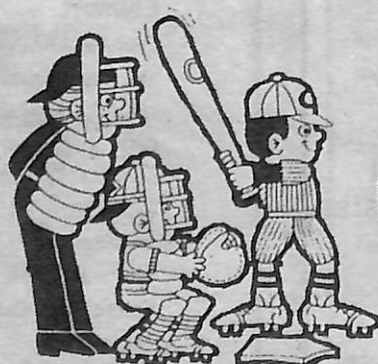
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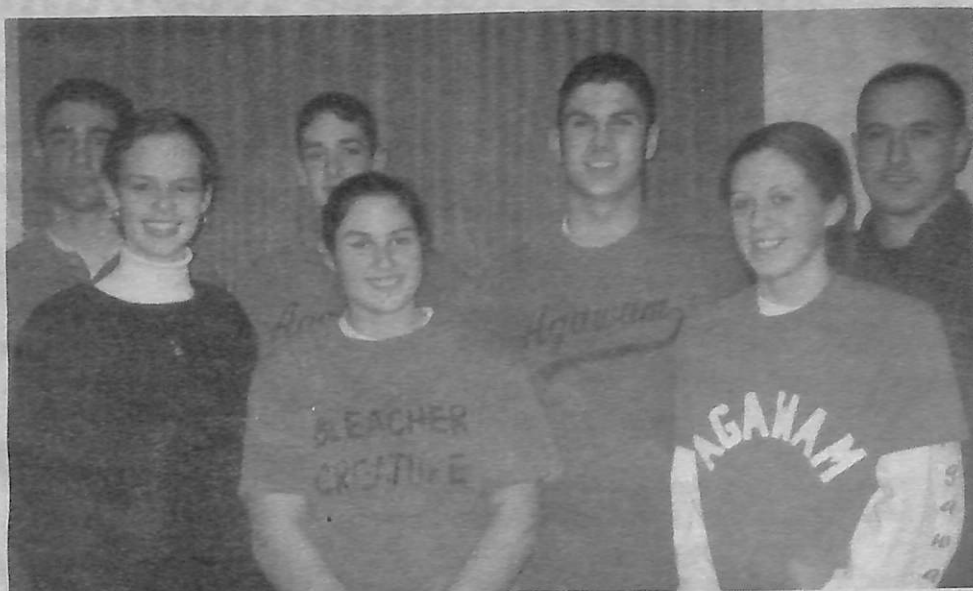
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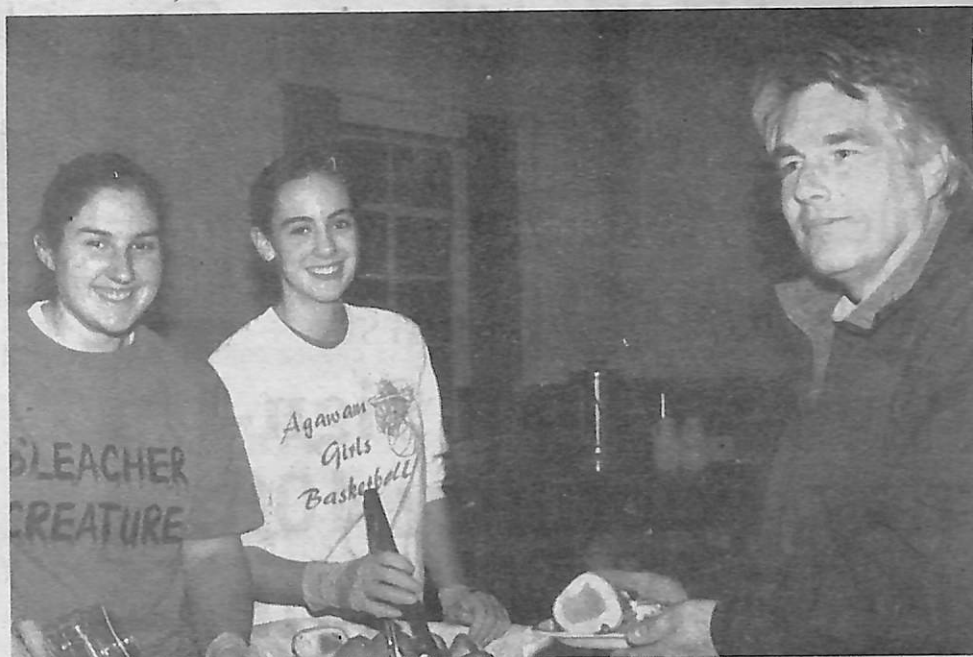
Pasta Supper Big Success For AHS Basketball...



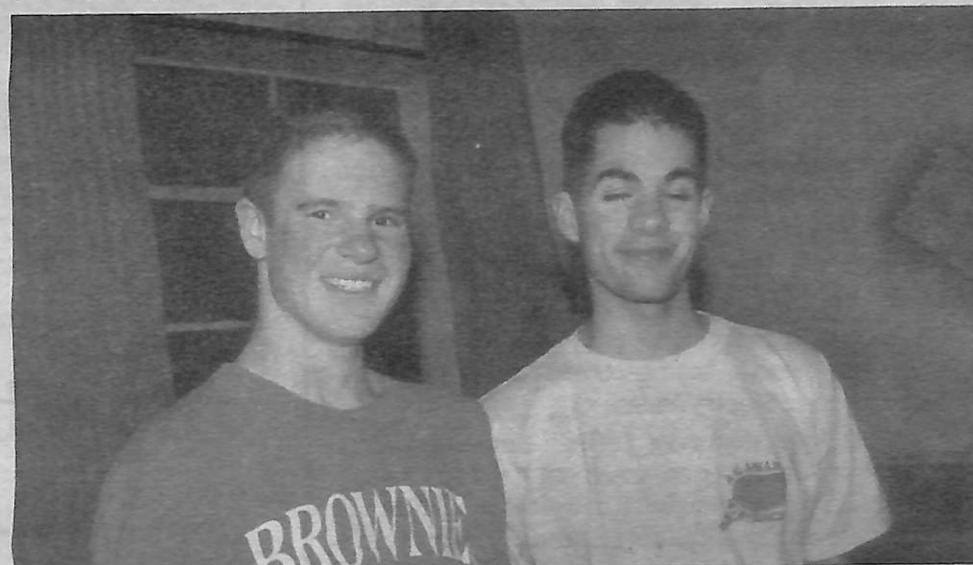
LAST MONTH, the Agawam High School parents' basketball "Boosters" held a pasta supper at the Italian Sporting Club. Pictured above are some of the "kitchen helpers" at the event: Rich Bienia, Dean Mercadante, Joe Bucalo, Rosa Santaniello, Pam Bucalo, Carol Mercadante, and Linda Bienia. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH girls' and boys' varsity basketball teams were on hand to support the pasta supper sponsored by the parents' basketball "Boosters." Front row: Bronwyn Monahan (girls' varsity coach) and Laura Bucalo and Jill Gendron (senior captains). Back row: Adam Ellsworth, Shawn Mercadante, Lou Conte (senior captains), and Brian Alves (boys' varsity coach). Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



AGAWAM HIGH GIRLS' VARSITY PLAYERS Laura Bucalo (left) and Erin Corbin wait on Bob Forbes at last month's pasta supper, which was held to benefit the school's basketball program. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



AGAWAM HIGH BASKETBALL PLAYERS Mike McGeoghan (left) and Mike DeFillipi say, "Let them eat cake!" at the pasta supper held at the Italian Sporting Club. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice prior to your event. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...

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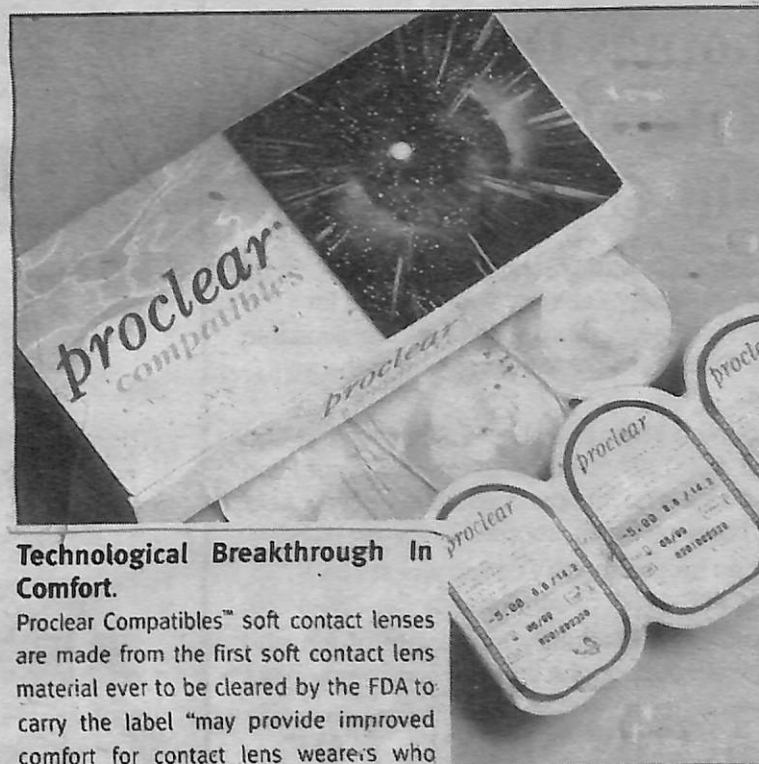
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Giving A "Boost" For The AHS Basketball Teams...



In left photo: Linda Bienia (right) moved from the kitchen to help Joanne Taylor with the ticket-taking at last month's pasta supper sponsored by the AHS parents' basketball "Booster." In center photo: The McGeoghan "girls" - Kerry (left), a 2000 AHS graduate, and Joann (Kerry's mom) - were part of the large crowd who attended the pasta supper to benefit the AHS basketball program. In right photo: AHS basketball parents Patty Blair (left) and Suzanne Strole were two of the servers at the pasta supper, which was held at the Italian Sporting Club. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

AHS Hockey Booster Club Sponsoring February 11th Trip To Mohegan Sun

The Agawam High School Varsity Ice Hockey Booster Club is sponsoring a bus trip to Mohegan Sun on Sunday, February 11th, as a fundraiser for the team.

The bus will leave from the High School at 10:30

a.m., arriving back in Agawam around 7:30 p.m.

The cost is \$20 per person. You will receive \$20 worth of vouchers for food and games.

For further information and/or tickets, please call Cathy at 786-9597.

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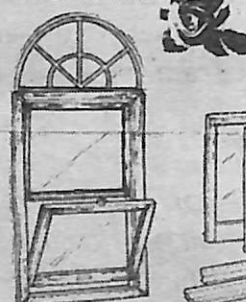
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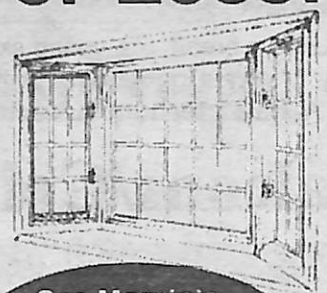
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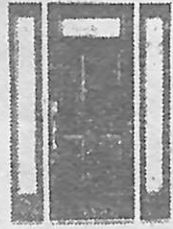
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READY FOR THE NHL??? The BayWest Mite A Bulldogs and their coaches enjoyed their recent meeting with the Boston Bruins at the Fleet Center in Boston. Back row: Coaches Jim Matroni, John Corley, and Steve Buoniconti. Middle row: J.R. Hughes, Colin Arnold, Antonio Pitaridis, Michael Gioranino, Eric Corley, Colin Fenton, and Kris Ziemba. Front row: Steve Buoniconti, Chris Santaniello, Tommy Matroni, Kevin Wheeler, Chris Hughes, Matt Bengtson, and Steven Turrini.

Local Youth Hockey Players Are Guests Of The Boston Bruins At Fleet Center

Members of the BayWest Mite A Bulldogs hockey team were recently invited to be the guests of the Boston Bruins at the Fleet Center in Boston. As the Bulldogs looked on, the Bruins held their annual Skills Competition.

During a break, the young skaters had the opportunity to play a game against the Tri-County Saints Mite A Travel Team from Mansfield, Massachusetts.

The abbreviated game was played in front of a crowd of 5,000-plus fans and ended in a 0-0 tie.

In addition, the Bulldogs had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet the Bruins in the locker-room for autographs.

The Bulldogs are comprised of youths from several local towns, including Agawam and Southwick.

Falcons/Colleen's Court At Fitness First



FITNESS FIRST IN FEEDING HILLS recently hosted a photo session featuring members of the Springfield Falcons hockey team. From left: Falcons' captains Jean-Guy Trudel, Travis Hansen, Craig Mills, and Francois Leroux and members of the Colleen's Court - Lori O'Dea, Emily Morton, and Meagan Langevin. (Missing from photo: Colleen Danielle DeForge and Court member Ashley Guiel). Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, letters, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Girls' Varsity Basketball...

AHS Absorbs Costly Setback To West Side

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Sometimes a losing streak is like a stubborn cold - no matter what you try, it just won't go away.

So it is for the Agawam High girls' basketball team. They suffered their seventh loss in a row last Friday, February 2nd - a tough, 45-43 upset setback to visiting West Springfield.

It was no surprise both teams were pumped for this one. The Terriers (coming in at 3-11, 1-2 and on the enemy court) seemed ripe for the picking. But for the Brownies, in a season that's turned sour fast, nothing seems ripe at this point.

AHS is 7-8 overall and needs three wins in its last five games to qualify for the Division I tournament. Those five are two against Longmeadow, and one each against Minnechaug, Amherst, and West Side.

AHS jumped on top early, 8-4, with 4:20 gone on 4-8 from the floor as opposed to 2-13 for the visitors. A Liz Stieg deuce put Agawam up, 13-6, at the 8:58 mark.

At the time, the Brownies were in a 2-3 zone and pressing occasionally on defense.

West Side tied things up at 13 on some good work off the offensive boards with 7:24 left. The Brownies went back on top, courtesy of a trey from sophomore guard Jenna Shea (11 points) 12 seconds later.

Senior Jill Gendron contributed a deuce in the lane and two from the circle, giving the Brownies a 20-13 lead with 4:50 to play.

At that point, sophomore forward Kristen Strole (who has been seeing more playing time lately) had five rebounds. She would end up with 13 for the game.

At 4:10 Agawam - which had eight turnovers to that point - led 20-15. Twenty seconds later, they had a one-point, 22-21 lead as West Side (going 10-25) shot over their zone. Agawam was hitting their field goals to the tune of 10-21.

Four more Brownie points, including a nice Keegan Clark steal with five seconds left, gave Agawam a 26-21, first-half lead.

The Terriers came out of the intermission and drilled two quick buckets to narrow the Brownie margin to 26-25. However, a Stieg steal and a dish for a deuce to a driving Shea had Agawam back up, 28-25.

A trey from Terrier standout Jen Donahue (17 points) with 2:34 gone knotted things at 28-all. West Side went up, 32-30, and Agawam began to press more at that point, led by the quick hands of Gendron and Stieg.

One for two from the line by Strole closed it to 32-31, visitors. Agawam was shooting a disappointing 2-9 from the field. West Side came in at 5-9.

A Stieg steal and a pass to sophomore Vicky Taylor resulted in two from the baseline. Two from Shea and two more from Taylor on an offensive rebound saw Agawam up, 37-34, with 8:26 to play.

Taylor, the team's leading bounder all season (nine versus West Side), grabbed another from the offensive glass to give the Brownies a 39-34 lead with 7:20 left.

However, an Agawam turnover saw West Side close to 39-38 with 6:05 left.

Taylor, still tough off the glass, got fouled and hit one of two from the line, staking Agawam to a 40-38 lead at 5:51. Then West Side began to utilize a press of its own.

Donahue drained her second trey of the game and the Terriers led, 41-40 with 4:25 left. Agawam, suffering shooting woes again, was 6-19 from the field. West Springfield, finding the range, came in at 14-22.

A second three from Stieg put the Brownies up, 43-41 with 1:50 to play. The Terriers then went on a 4-0

SEE GIRLS' BASKETBALL - Page 47

WNEC's "Girls & Women In Sports Day" Is Feb. 17th

Western New England College celebrates National Girls and Women in Sports Month with a special event on Saturday, February 17th as part of the college's 50th anniversary celebration.

"The 2nd Annual Western New England College Girls and Women in Sports Day" is a community service program designed for girls ages nine to 14 from the Greater Springfield area.

The program runs from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Alumni Healthful Living Center. It is free, however, canned good donations are requested, with all proceeds going to a local shelter for women and children.

Participants have the opportunity to select two sport clinics involving basketball, volleyball, soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, tennis, and softball.

A highlight of the evening will be a women's game between the Western New England College Golden Lady Bears and Emerson College at 1:00 p.m. at the Alumni Healthful Living Center.

News From Agawam Soccer Association

The Agawam Soccer Association is looking for anyone that is interested in being a referee. Anyone who is 12 years of age or older is welcome to participate.

There will be an Intown Referee Class on Sunday, February 18th from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at Games & Lanes. This will be a great way for you to get out and enjoy the sport as much as our kids do. It's also great exercise. So won't you come out and join us this year? Contact Dean Brust at 789-7667 to reserve your spot. The cost is only \$15 and this includes a referee shirt and whistle.

The Association is also looking for anyone that may be interested in coaching Pioneer Valley Junior Soccer. If you like to work with kids and enjoy the sport of soccer, you are encouraged to send a letter of reference and background to Ed Dean at P.O. Box 442, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

The following is a list of age groups for boys and girls: U-9, U-10, and U-12 boys; U-9, U-10, U-11, and U-12 girls. There are a lot of coaching spots available, so please write that letter today and get it to Ed Dean. Thank you, and enjoy.

Level 6 Gymnasts From Daggett's Compete In Sectionals

Six girls from the Tim Daggett's Gold Medal Gymnastics Women's Team competed in the Level 6 Sectional Qualifier at the Monachusett School of Gymnastics in Fitchburg, Mass. on January 28th.

The girls were split between two age groups. In the 10- to 11-year division, Brittany Bolella of Enfield placed fourth in two individual events; bars, scoring 8.60, and vault, with an 8.80. Her 33.45 total earned her sixth in the All-Around and the rights to compete in State competition.

Britany Laflamme of Feeding Hills scored her best on Vault with an 8.65, while Kristen Cadigan of East Longmeadow followed closely with an 8.30.

In the 12- to 13-year division, Rachel Foltz from East Longmeadow took first on Bars with an 8.95, fourth on Beam (scoring 8.30), and third in the All-Around.

Nora Parsons of Suffield, Connecticut took sixth place on Bars with an 8.15 and Diana Forbes of Agawam captured second on Vault with an 8.35.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL - from Page 46

mini-run to retake the lead, 45-43, prompting Brownie Coach Bronwyn Monahan to call a time-out.

A West Side turnover with 33 seconds left saw Agawam with the ball. However, a Shea attempt at a three fell short. West Side could do nothing at its end, and it was Agawam's game to win or lose with 10 seconds left.

Gendron took the 15-foot pop from the right side, but it was off to the left. Stieg, who did a good job of getting into position for the offensive rebound, got it under the hoop and tried to spin it back in - to no avail.

Agawam fell to 0-3 in the league.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS: Gendron (4 points) - 2-8 FGs, 2 rebs; Taylor (9 points) - 4-6 FGs, 1-2 FT, 9 rebs, 2 off; Shea (11 points) - 5-13, 1-3 FGs, 0-2 FTs, 2 rebs, 1 off; Bucalo (2 points) - 1-1 FGS, 1 reb; Clark (4 points) - 2-9 FGs, 1 reb; Stieg (8 points) - 3-12, 2-3 FGs, 4 rebs, 1 off; Strole (3 points) - 1-5 FGs, 1-2 FT, 13 rebs, 4 off; Kelly (2 points) - 1-2 FGs, 1 reb.

AGAWAM TEAM: 19-56, 3-3's (33%); 2-6 FTs (33%); 33 Rebs - 11 off; 17 turnovers, 2 points allowed off turnovers.

WEST SPRINGFIELD TEAM: 21-65, 2-3 FGs (32%); 1-6 FTs (16%); 34 Rebs - 14 off; 12 turnovers, 2 points allowed off turnovers.

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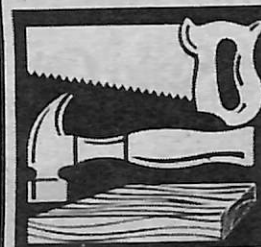


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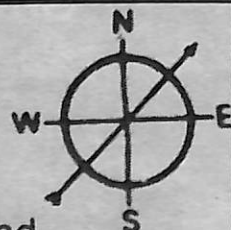
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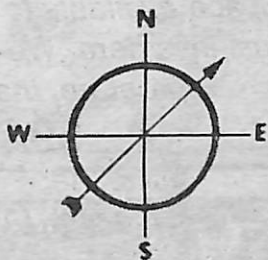
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